

CANADA'S

WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

# Maclean's

JULY 8, 1996

## Is it *really* worth it?

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and payoffs  
of cosmetic  
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# Maclean's CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE This Week

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**Is it really  
worth it?**

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COVER PHOTO BY MICHAEL

# From The Editor

## Ms. Brown on black rage



**R**osemary Brown has made her mark since she moved to Canada in 2000 from Jamaica at the age of 20. After graduating from McGill and the University of British Columbia, she became a social worker. Later, she founded the Vancouver Status of Women Council, and, in 1992, she became the first black woman elected to political office in Canada, serving for 14 years as an NDP member of the British Columbia legislature until her retirement in 1986. She has been a leader in Canada's

black community and sits on Ottawa's national security review committee, known as SSRC. Last week, she stepped down as chair commissioner of human rights in Ontario at the end of her three-year term. On July 1, she became an officer of the Order of Canada. She has three grown children, five grandchildren—another for this month—and a happy marriage. As if that is not enough, she now gets to move back to British Columbia and will spend more time with her husband, William, a psychiatrist.

Rosemary Brown also is a pragmatist with an infectious sense of humor, the kind of person who gives causes a good name. In her term, she has made the commission more efficient and taken the heat on issues such as same-sex benefits and discrimination in the workplace. Not content at age 66 to simply go away quietly, Rosemary Brown is now turning to a new mission—doing something about an emerging crisis that she says is brewing among Canada's black youth, particularly in Toronto. "Guns," she said last week during a conversation, "has been an eye-opener for me. It's a tough powder. We've got social problems in terms of the young blacks. Unless we do something about it, we're going to have an uneducated, angry, hostile, violent

population. I don't like what I see coming down the road."

Brown is not ready to cite the reasons for the situation, which she says needs study. Racism and a string of recent shootings of visible minority members by Toronto police have elevated tensions in the city's \$50,000-a-week black community. "Caring into Toronto is like coming into a war zone," she says. "I was stunned at the depth of anger and rage I found in the black community directed towards the police, and vice versa." But, Brown notes, "I don't think the blame is all on one side. We have to take some responsibility, too, for some of the problems we are having with our own young people. And we are having very serious problems." With her pointed remarks, she adds: "We're really wounding our leaders to find out why our kids aren't ready as fast as we are."

On one point, she is adamant: "It is no longer possible to say it's the parents." There are so many good kids from bad homes as there are bad kids from good homes. She adds: "One group of young black kids is just excellent. And there's the other group that kids that walk and they're out of school. They're saying, 'Let's hit the streets.' What we need to find out is why so many of them are making it and so many of them aren't."

Rosemary Brown is also an optimist. She sees many good things happening, especially in improving rights for minorities. She even chuckles about reports that late groups are falling on hard times. "It is not as easy to recruit young people as it used to be," she says. "They all like black music." There is hope. And Rosemary Brown has been one of its best messengers.



Brown: "We're really attacking our teens!"

sees many good things happening, especially in improving rights for minorities. She even chuckles about reports that late groups are falling on hard times. "It is not as easy to recruit young people as it used to be," she says. "They all like black music." There is hope. And Rosemary Brown has been one of its best messengers.

*Robert Jones*

## Newsroom Notes:

### No noses, please

Media images help to create a seemingly impossible standard of beauty. Or is it impossible? In this week's cover story points out, more and more Canadians—women and men—are seeking out the surgery of the stars getting a touch here, a lift there. But in preparing the package, Assistant Managing Editor Bob Levin, Senior Writer Patricia Chisholm and



Doyle Driscoll (left), Chisholm: the social stigma still applies

Assistant Editor Sharon Doyle Driscoll found that the social stigma still applies: most people interviewed by Maclean's requested anonymity. "I guess public exposure would be one pain too many," Chisholm observed.

### News tips

World Editor Berton Woodward last week received a call advising that Dr. Bill Atkinson, a Calgary, was stationed at a hospital in (Shawin), Saskatchewan, where a terrorist bomb exploded. Associate Editor Norris Morris interviewed Atkinson and his account forms part of the article on page 22.



In between  
the flat tire in the rainstorm  
bringing Boomer to the vet  
and getting the gum  
out of Lucy's hair

I was riveted by a reminder  
of where I'd promised myself  
to spend Saturdays.

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Students at Toronto's largest public library are given assignments for an education program.

## Shifting the debt-load

Harm to "borrowing to learn" (Education, June 24). It is about time that national attention was drawn to the growing crisis in funding postsecondary education. The very individuals one might expect to advocate affordable programs for students—college and university administrators—are clamoring to raise tuition. The very citizens who have invested deeply in a high-quality public postsecondary system are strangely silent as these schools raise thousands of dollars for capital spending. The very provincial governments who now deny the donors debt are eagerly encouraging students to take on ever greater student-consumer debt to gain an education. How hypocritical.

Don Messy-MIA,  
Albionville

## Curse of television

Your article "Toxic TV" (Cover, June 17) did a good job of informing your readers about much of the havoc for which television is responsible. I have been teaching for 22 years and, yes, today's children are

more aggressive and much less sensitive to the needs of others. Behavior and discipline are perhaps the greatest issues confronting teachers (and parents), and television is at the root of many of these problems. Anyone arguing to the contrary has his/her head stuck fast in the sand. There exists another cause that must be considered when discussing this issue. Television is a key player in the erosion of the dividing line between childhood and adulthood and, as a result, many of today's children are growing up too fast. Through what they see, hear and read, kids have access to mysteries of life that go far beyond their years. Twelve-year-olds want to live like in the last issue and the innocence of childhood, with the accompanying carefree years, is passing them by. That truly is lamentable. One would be hardpressed to overcome the negative effects that television's insidious presence has caused. But, after all, our opposition is big business. Sick advertising, consumer profits, novelty and highly paid experts are just a few of the driving forces behind this assault on our instincts and thoughts. Now, parents and teachers must educate themselves by reading about, and discussing, how the army of mindless television programs and seductive ads impact our homes and schools.

Gus Whitford,  
Grosse Pointe, MI

If what people see on television has minimal effect on their attitudes, why do corporations pay out sums of money for a mere 30 seconds to showcase their product? Because it works. And because it works, my husband and I have opted to doom our family to the netherworld of no television. The result? Our kids do their homework regularly, they entertain themselves and, better yet, they help my husband and me with chores. Television controls nothing that can't be defeated in the real world and with the added benefit of no counterattacks.

Dorinda Aarons,  
Northfield, MN

## Shame on Sheila

After her victory in the recent by-election ("Coppa back in cabinet," Canada News, July 1), an elated Sheila Copps proclaimed: "We kicked butt!" Was she referring to the butt of the Canadian taxpayer

## Blood pressure

As a person infected by tainted blood, I am very disturbed at action taken in the Federal Court of Canada against the Krieger commission ("Of bad blood and blame," Canada, June 5). The Canadian Red Cross and other applicants in this case seem to have an excess of time and money to challenge Judge Horne Krieger's mandate. I wish the same could be said for those who were needlessly infected by the mishandling of the blood supply. Shame on the federal government for spending two years and almost \$14 million on an inquiry that it now wishes to make totally ineffective. Shame on the former federal and provincial health ministers who will not let their past decisions stand as a matter of public record. Shame on the Canadian Red Cross Society, which maintained the blood system and now looks behind snake skins and stalling tactics concealed by overpaid lawyers. Finally, and most important, shame on those who delude themselves that history will never repeat itself.

Stephen M. Weinreich,  
Nordenburg, ON

forced to pay half a million dollars for a phoney resignation driven by any rational scruples but reeking with electoral political expediency" by sending such an individual back to the House of Commons, voters in Hamilton East have proved in convincing language that citizens really get the politicians they deserve.

F.R. Adams,  
London, Ont. M

As a Canadian who believes in the tradition of British parliamentary law, it grieves me greatly that Sheila Copps has brought disrespect to all politicians in Canada. It is regret that her pursuit of a higher position in the party meant more to her than any promise made to Canadians.

Morrel Gertzel,  
Whitby, Ont. M

## Then and now

What an absolutely wonderful treatment in the June 17 Read Ahead, from the very perspective and, sadly, very accurate author, Rudnick G. MacGregor ("Everything is so much better now"). As I read and reread it, I was amazed at how readily he struck a chord in my recollections of the way we were. Perhaps some of our current gain in Ottawa, just breaking off for a well-earned rest from the trough, should have the constants

# "The good news is that we have a genuinely innovative product. That's also the bad news"

Robert Noble, TruCorp Ltd.



The business	The challenge	The solution	The results
TruCorp Ltd. Develops, manufactures and distributes the TruShampoo Advance. Major retail partners of Gold medal for "Best New Canadian Product" in 1991 and U.S. "Innovation Choice Award of Distinction" in 1992.	"This is a genuinely different product and we were finding that profiles were being obtained not because they were effective but simply because of confusion about exactly what it was. Because the sales were changing for reasons and shipping and handling, our creative team taking a real beating. Not to mention being sales and marketing disoriented consumers."	Innovative Advantage Sell our "big number" (1,000,000 TADs) in each parking station. We'll customers offered regarding usage monthly and pay.	"Thanks to the insights we got from Advantage, we're experienced 50% faster return versus a year ago. What's a pretty interesting when you consider the fact that we're now back to double volume \$4 million this year. That indicates to us that it doesn't need the lecture of our old line outside in all our packaging. And it's also a great source of feedback from retailers and how customers. We depend on the Advantage series because in our customers can always get through in us."



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## NEW BRUNSWICK DEALER OF EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER

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We proudly salute the Maclean's 1996 New Brunswick Dealer of Excellence Award winner, Mr. Gerald Toner, President of Toner Pontiac Buick GMC Limited.

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Gerald captured the New Brunswick

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Gerald's exemplary service adds lustre to the nation's automotive industry and, like Maclean's magazine, provides what matters to Canadians.

For friendly, expert advice on buying or leasing a new car, visit Gerald Toner, Maclean's Dealer of Excellence Award winner for New Brunswick.



## Another View



# Charles Gordon

## Canadian scenery: the great unifier

**W**hat better way to celebrate the birthday of Canada than to drive right across it, trying to find the things that hold it together, and along the way, enjoying the scenery? The scenery, it is certain, is one of those things. If we didn't have Canada, we wouldn't have the Gaspé, and the people in the Gaspé who live on Prince Edward Island wouldn't have Cape Breton to visit, and none of them would have access to western Newfoundland. We shouldn't underestimate the unifying role of scenery. There are all beautiful places, quite close together by Canadian standards, countries apart by the measurement of people on other continents. Having access to them all is important for our survival. One of the things that threatens it is that we don't, as a people, travel enough. There are too many of us who have never been to Quebec, too many who have never been outside of Toronto, too many who have never been east of British Columbia. The more we see, the better we like each other, the better we like Canada. You only have to talk to Canadian tourists as they visit other parts of their country to appreciate this. Their awe at, say, the Cabot Trail in summer, their joy at discovering Quebec City in fall.

Which leads us to the important unifying influence of ferries. It is easy to forget this, being in Central Canada, but in many places you don't get from one part of the country to another by car without going on a ferry. Ferries don't seem to come up at the countless local conference table very often, thank heavens, but without them we are lost.

There is one of the Escapements, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence, that takes you to Trois-Pistoles, on the south shore and the entrance to the Gaspé. There is some tension getting onto it for someone who has not done it before, because there seems to be no system and you don't know whether the number you have been assigned will get you on. Your French lacks ferry vocabulary. But you get on—the ferry, the *Berthe*, it holds 42 cars; you find out later—and enjoy a bracing 1½-hour journey across the river, which looks like an ocean at this point and has the feel of it. Nobody, passenger or crew, on this ferry speaks English, which is a reminder of the diversity—maybe would say distinctiveness—of the land.

The unifying influence of the ferry is not just in the physical fact of getting Canadians from point A to point B, but in getting them there in the right frame of mind. This point becomes evident aboard the unfortunately named *Macdonald*, which runs from Cape Tormentine, N.B., to Baieville, P.E.I. Until the much-discussed fixed link between the two provinces is completed next year,

the only way to get to and off the island without flying is by ferry.

Once aboard, and out of the car, the ferry rider discovers one of the great attributes of the ferry—you don't have to drive it. You have to get out of your car, you have to walk the decks, sit at desks and eat something (or even, no matter how early in the morning, head right for the scenic spot seat). More important, you have to look at the water, watch the *Berthe* and *Macdonald* float in and out of the locks of the locks. The effort is to slow you down. Forty-five minutes later, you will be there, in the proper frame of mind. Who knows whether the relaxed pace visitors find on Prince Edward Island has in fact come with them.

And who knows what the psychological impact of that eight-mile journey will be. The visitor, instead of being fresh from a 40-minute ferry ride when he hits the island, will have spent a mere 10 minutes or so getting ready for his arrival that 30 minutes have been spent behind the wheel in high winds. Not that there's anything anyone can do about it, or the 600 ferry jobs to be lost. But watch for an increase in growth rates on the island when the fixed link opens, a minor addition to the number of things that disunite us.

Back on the mainland, earned to Nova Scotia by the Prince Edward, you are rested up and in the right mood for the Cabot Trail. Coming off a year spent for a ferry fee in fact at St. John's Bay on the Bay of Fundy, where a tiny little thing will, for 30 cents, take you to flag-kissed. Only you and another car and a big truck can get on it at a time, but the trip and the wait are short—perhaps a total of 10 minutes from lineup to exit on the other side.

By way of contrast, the road trip to Prince Edward Island is \$48.25 (car, driver and one passenger) and one way to Newfoundland is \$68.25. That Newfoundland ferry is in as danger of being replaced by a bridge, a tunnel, a conveyor, a fixed link, or any other such contraption. It is 6½ hours to Port au Port, Baie des Basques across Northumberland Strait, about 14½ hours to St. John's.

The Caribou is a mighty fine and the CFL football field long, including end zones, capable of holding 12,000 people. It has restaurants, a bar, a gift shop, staircases and a movie theatre, plus desks to walk around. The Caribou also has a history—in 1942 its predecessor was torpedoed and sunk, at a cost of 137 lives. There are the inevitable conversations about other journeys. A woman from Ontario spent 2½ hours on a ferry as the St. C. coast widened to birth and she stated that "there's only so much scenery you can look at," a guy from Illinois who had something happen to his arm on a trip to Alaska, a woman from New York City who seems happily lost the day, thinking there might be a whale in there. Ferry etiquette seems to dictate that you nod and smile at people the second time you encounter them. In 4½ hours there is a lot of encountering and a lot of smiling, which gets people in the right frame of mind for Newfoundland, whose place in Confederation is all the more secure.

Charles Gordon is writing on a break on bench in Canada, to be published next year by Macmillan & Stewart.

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# 'Murder right from Day 1'

There were no shields, no heavily armed guards. Instead, the man accused of attempting to murder the Prime Minister of Canada walked into the Ontario provincial courthouse in Ottawa during his trial last week after being dropped off by a staff member of the supervised group home where he lives. Adding to the surrealism of the proceedings, André Dufresne, a slim and bespectacled 34-year-old from Longueuil, Que., appeared anything but a cold-blooded assassin as he circulated among reporters during brief, loosely monitored interviews. He no longer hears voices, he said. He was sorry for the events that occurred last Nov. 5, when he entered the grounds of 24 Sussex Drive and broke into the Prime Minister's residence armed with a three-inch-barrel knife. In the end, Justice Paul Bellerose concurred with the defence's argument that Dufresne, diagnosed as a paranoid schizophrenic, had been delusional at the time of the break-in. The judge ruled that Dufresne was guilty of attempted murder, but that he could not be held criminally responsible for his actions—leading to an end to extraordinary grounds in Canada's recent political history. Said one Ottawa lawyer: "This thing has been bizarre right from Day 1."

Bew would disagree. At 2:10 am on Nov. 5, Dufresne arrived at the fence surrounding 24 Sussex Drive—and spent 20 minutes throwing stones onto the grounds and waving at security cameras that, ostensibly, were being monitored by Jean Chretien's RCMP security staff. He then climbed the fence and proceeded to the Chretien's residence, where he smashed a window and entered the house. Dufresne wandered around in the basement and on the ground floor for another half-hour before going upstairs. Outside the Chretien's bedroom, he was confronted by the Prime Minister's wife, Anne, who quickly retreated into the bedrooms, locked the door and telephoned for help—while Chretien himself brandished an Israeli Desert Eagle in case Dufresne broke through the door. Dufresne, later described by Anne Chretien as resembling the Tom Hanks character in the 2004 movie *Survival Game*, put down his knife and waited for the RCMP to arrive—which they did, fully seven minutes later.

Last week, Dufresne, whose case will now be assessed by Ontario's Criminal Code review board while he continues to live at a group home, expressed remorse for his actions, telling a throng of reporters that he wanted to say "sorry" to the Chretiens. During the trial, Dufresne's lawyer, John Hule, did not challenge RCMP evidence that, after he was finally apprehended, Dufresne had said that he wanted to slit Chretien's throat. But Hule argued that so much testimony had taken place—Dufresne, after all, had not entered the Chretiens' bedroom. "The accused must go beyond preparation and attempt to commit the ultimate act," Hule said. Crown attorney Laurence Dupont disagreed, telling Bellerose that Dufresne's "intention to kill was always present." And, she added, "at no time in the night did he change his intention."

That purpose, though, was clearly the product of a severely troubled mind. Defence witness Dominique Bourget, a psychiatrist at the Royal Ottawa Hospital, told the court that Dufresne was suffering from delusions last November, and that he heard voices telling



**The man who tried to kill Jean Chretien is found guilty—but not responsible**

## 'I'M A NEW MAN'

"All the acts of Mr. Dufresne following his entry on the grounds are stages in the act of attempted murder. The intention to kill was always present. At no time in the night did he change his intention."

Assistant Crown Attorney  
Laurence Dupont, June 25

\*\*\*\*

"He was talking things are step at a time to see how far he would get. He was receiving instructions from an inner voice while another voice told him to stop—it was like he was in a dream."

Psychiatrist  
Dominique Bourget, June 25

\*\*\*\*

"How many occasions would wave at security cameras for 20 minutes in order to see if they might get caught?"

John Hule, the lawyer representing  
Dufresne, June 27

\*\*\*\*

"The voices have disappeared now—I'm a new man. I can tell Mr. Chretien and Mrs. Chretien and their family I'm sincerely sorry for my actions on Nov. 5."

André Dufresne, June 27

\*\*\*\*

"His disorder had cut him off from reality. He had delusions of grandeur, maybe even of a messianic mission. He thought he would be glorified for making Canada of this prime minister."

Justice Paul Bellerose, June 28

Shelving outside court, paranoid delusions, a severely troubled mind

him to kill Chretien. Bourget said that the co-conspirator, a woman, was diagnosed as a paranoid schizophrenic when he was 18, forced himself to be a secret agent whose mission was to avenge the No side's victory in last October's federal elections on an undercover basis. Bourget also said that Dufresne was no longer a threat to the public. After the events of last November, he received a 60-day psychiatric evaluation, overseen by Bourget, at the Royal Ottawa Hospital, and was subsequently released to an Ottawa-area group home. In January after doctors testified that his condition had improved, since he was put on medication. In addition, Dufresne's movements were not restricted, as long as he was accompanied by a group home staff member. He was escorted to and from the courthouse each day by a staff member.

That liberal approach, along with Bellerose's decision last week, worries some legal experts—among them Kerrie Strick, a columnist for *Canadian Lawyer* magazine. "There is a severe crisis of last May's ruling in the *Dufresne* justice case, in which the Calgary society was pronounced not guilty of shooting her husband because she was in a dissociative state due to alcoholism and emotional problems. The Dufresne case, Strick says, falls into the same general category. "The more you allow excuses for this type of behavior, the more you will see it," says Strick, who practices law in Toronto. "We are now asking ourselves to find people innocent." Others noted the stark contrast between Canada's handling of the Dufresne case and comparable incidents in the United States. During his 1992 trial, John Hinckley Jr., who tried to kill then-President Ronald Reagan, was whisked into court in chains and sat in the courtroom behind bulletproof glass, dressed in prison fatigues. In Canada, Dufresne, sporting a blue windbreaker, jeans and white sneakers, moved freely—and watched his trial from the gallery.

As for the RCMP controversy continues to swirl around their handling of the events of Nov. 5. On videotapes from the 24 Sussex Drive security system, introduced by the Crown as evidence during last week's trial, Dufresne can be clearly seen standing across the grounds—and waving to the cameras from time to time. But Chretien's guards reacted only after Anne Chretien called to report as a passer-by in the house—almost an hour after Dufresne climbed the fence. As if in a bad TV sitcom, the first officer arrived at the front door only to discover that he had forgotten his key. The shamefaced RCMP are still doing their best to handle the public relations disaster. "There are a number of perceptions at issue," said Sgt. Michel Gaudet, an RCMP spokesman. "But nobody denies the obvious."

After an internal investigation of the incident, four officers were suspended. They returned to work in March. Officials have still not decided what to do about their supervisor, also suspended, and Gaudet says that none of the findings will be made public. As a result of the leak-up, new electronic detection devices and more security cameras have been installed at 24 Sussex Drive. But some observers say the new equipment addresses only part of the problem. "It's known among RCMP officers that the 24 Sussex job is one of the most boring—and until last fall the forces did not dispatch as best people to carry out the job," says Reform party MP Jack Ramsay, himself a former RCMP constable. "It's a question of leadership. Training must improve, and the new equipment they've purchased must be kept up to date."

Dufresne's future is now in the hands of the Criminal Code review board. Within 45 days, the five-member board, which includes a judge and a psychiatrist, must hold a hearing on the matter. They can allow him to continue living in a group home, send him to a psychiatric hospital or give him a conditional release. In the event of Dufresne's continued incarceration, his case will be reviewed once a year by the board to determine if he is fit to be released. "I am a new man," Dufresne told reporters last week. Regardless, he has given a break meaning to the old advertising slogan—only in Canada.

LUKE FISHER in Ottawa



## CANADA

# Violence erupts in the heart of a charmed city

As in past years, an estimated 30,000 young French-speaking Quebecers gathered on the Plains of Abraham in Quebec City last week for a bonorous open-air party to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the city's 300th birthday. When the live concert and traditional *des jeun* ended around 12:30 a.m. on June 24, as many as 2,000 people, many of them draped in Quebec flags and chanting nationalist slogans, converged on Place d'Youville, a public square less than a kilometre away in the city's historical district. Within minutes of their arrival, fights broke out, mobs were thrown and 240 municipal police officers in riot gear moved in, firing tear gas and employing a newly acquired water cannon to disperse the crowd. What followed was a looting riot that resulted in 51 arrests, widespread looting, two fires, and more than \$1 million in damages to local shops and the Quebec national assembly. "These were deplorable and disgusting events," a haggard-looking Mayor Jean-Paul L'Allier told reporters a few hours after the rioting had ended. "The population does not want these things repeated."

In the days that followed, public debate centred on what had sparked such an ugly confrontation in a normally tranquil city that is a magnet for tourists from across

the globe. Both L'Allier and Quebec City police Chief Normand Bergeron blamed a mix of alcohol, drugs and visiting troublemakers—the latter a pointed reference to the fact that more than a third of the 51 people arrested came from outside the Quebec City region. More ominously, Bergeron alleged that the attack on the national assembly was proof that "professional agitators" had led the rioters. Police later confirmed they were conducting investigations into two fringe groups who may have played a role in the violence. The first was the Northern Hammer Skins—a loosely knit, North American-wide coalition of right-wing extremists that is believed to be associated with the neo-Nazi Heritage Front. The second is a anarchist group that produces a bilingual, underground newspaper called *Dominion*, or "walk towards anarchy." According to Peter Verna, secretary of the Montreal-based World Anti-Fascist League, an organization that monitors extremist groups, the anarchists broadly publish "their propaganda against government and police that glorifies rioting and justifies violence."

*Police and rioters did fringe groups provoke the trouble?*

At the same time, Quebec's municipal police force did not escape blame for its handling of events. Critics questioned why there wasn't a greater show of force at Place d'Youville, a popular hangout for street people and adolescents, and the scene of frequent late-night confrontations with police, the most recent being a riot in early May that resulted in a public apology from Bergeron for permitting the use of cayenne pepper spray against teenagers. The municipal force was also taken to task for not requesting the aid of the provincial police force's emergency response team when it became clear the situation was out of control. These concerns may explain provincial Public Security Minister Robert Perrault's decision last week to put the provincial police in charge of security measures around the national assembly and in the city's historical district and to lead investigations into the riot.

By week's end, however, many people questioned whether those changes would help to reduce tensions in Quebec City. "What happened the other night was a direct result of the steady deterioration in social services," said Gilles Marquis, director of Pointe de Bergeron, an education centre for the prevention of severely troubled students and AIDS among substance abusers and street people, many of whom frequent Place d'Youville. "Many of the kids who were involved have no job, no tuition in the system and no hope for the future. If they attacked the assembly, it's because they're frustrated and their voices are not being heard. The violence was like an abscess that broke open. Unfortunately, everyone is blaming

ing the pus on the floor rather than the virus that caused the infection."

Others took a more sanguine view. "An event like this only confirms everything that everyone thinks about everyone else," said Bernard Arcand, an author and anthropologist at Laval University. "The incident was really just an accident. We aird the elements were in place and it just took a spark to get it going." Perhaps that is in chain of events in Quebec City residents, who take great pride in their community's beauty and historical charm, would clearly like to avoid rehashing.

MARK CUREWELL is in Quebec City

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#### INQUIRY ADJOURNED

A senior defence department public affairs officer told the Somalia inquiry that he assumed the chief of defence staff, Gen. Jean Boivin, was senior if a plan to alter military documents released to a journalist under the Access to Information Act. Gen. Doug Case conceded, however, that he had no evidence for his assumption. Following his testimony, the inquiry, which is looking into the deaths of Canadian soldiers in Somalia in 1992-1993, recessed for six weeks.

#### WHERE'S THE BEEF?

Tests revealed that a fifth of the ground beef in 120 Nova Scotia grocery stores contained either insects, including pork. As a result, Agriculture Canada said it will step up its inspection of ground beef in grocery stores across Canada.

#### A QUESTION OF SANITY

The way in which 14-year-old Sandy Oliveira killed a seven-year-old boy was so bizarre that coroners' juries decide he must be found not guilty by reason of insanity, the boy's lawyer said. Crown attorney Robin Ritter agreed with Saskatoon lawyer Barry Berger that Chaston, who looked some of his victim's flesh in a ritual borrowed from the horror movie *Whodunnit*, "obviously has something wrong with him." But Ritter told Justice Gerald Allwright that the two knew what he was doing when he carried out the murder. Allwright reserved his decision until Aug. 2.

#### PRIVATE LIQUOR LESSONS

A report by University of Alberta economist Douglas Wolf says that product selection has doubled since the Alberta government privatized liquor stores in November 1993. Wolf's report, however, has been cut in half. In the same period, prices rose by four or five per cent—keeping with the trend in other provinces.

#### PROSECUTOR CHARGED

Seidichew Dassen attorney Randy Kirkham was charged with attempting to obstruct justice in the 1994 murder trial of Robert Lulic, who killed his severely handicapped daughter, Tracy. Authorities ordered a review of Kirkham's actions last April after it was revealed that police conducted potential juries in the case about their views on mercy killing, abortion and religion.



Peering through the blinds, dust containing lead could poison

## Putting kids at risk

Health Canada set up a toll-free number to deal with the deluge of calls it received after issuing a stern warning about plastic mini-blinds. Federal officials say the blinds, used in millions of homes, may expose young children to dangerous levels of lead. "We seek some other design such as lead in crayons, stains with pigments, the concern with Chubbie Patch look-alike dolls,"

million plastic mini-blinds in Canada. Pregnant women should also avoid contact with the blinds.

Health Canada began testing the window coverings last spring after similar investigations by the U.S. Consumer Safety Commission. Researchers now intend to investigate other plastic products from the five countries that export the mini-blinds.

#### THE WINSTON INQUIRY

### Assigning blame

Federal Court Justice John Richard has given the inquiry into the 1992 riot the right to dig up dirt for blame. 17 Red Cross and federal officials. But Richard named inquiry chairman Justice Thomas Kneier, who is accused with the AIDS virus or hepatitis in the 1990s, from among 17 other named individuals in the final report. The accused group includes former provincial health ministers and senior bureaucrats. More than 80 individuals and groups had challenged Kneier, arguing that any blame to "join blame would have been laid on future disaster or civil actions. The inquiry panel that the three-year-old inquiry will be able to resume hearings—mainly in the event of an appeal. Victims' representatives welcomed his judgment. But Douglas Lippincott, secretary general of the Canadian Red Cross Society, said that the "witch hunt" was "narrowed" to 14 Red Cross officials and three "haphazard bureaucrats."

### Tough talk from B.C.

B.C. Premier Glen Clark pledged to defeat British Columbians against what he called "a federal administration that often seems aloof and removed from the realities of day-to-day life in our province." The newly elected premier's first three speeches, read by Lt.-Gov. Gordon Sinclair, said that national unity can best be achieved through economic progress and social equity. "Quebecers, the British Columbians, want to know their country offers them hope for the future. No constitutional deal offers that kind of hope."

Clark's NDP government also introduced a modified form of the budget a tilted shortly before calling the May 28 provincial election. In that contest, Clark's party won a three-seat majority but only 38 per cent of the popular vote—three points less than the opposition Liberals. While the government carried through as promised tax cuts for middle-income earners and small businesses, it announced a six-month freeze on proposed spending on highways, highways and other projects. Clark said he was responding to voters' concerns about the province's \$20-billion deficit.



Clark: a new unity line

said Mike Gaffney, a product safety officer for 28 years. "I don't think any child would do this."

When the polystyrene childlike contained in the inexpensive blinds—they usually cost no more than \$20—as exposed to sunlight, it begins to disintegrate, forming a dust that contains lead. The dust can prove poisonous to young children who touch it and then put their fingers in their mouths. The health department advised parents with children aged 6 or younger to remove any blinds made in China, Taiwan, Indonesia, Hong Kong or Mexico. These countries were the source for 98 per cent of the estimated eight

million plastic mini-blinds in Canada. Pregnant women should also avoid contact with the blinds.

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# Terror and summity

**D**espite the fact that just last week, knowing he was on call that night at the Okhrana 25th Clinic in Saudi Arabia, "I was lying in bed and I felt the shaking. I felt the bomb's impulse from 10 miles away," said the Calgary native, a surgeon at the hospital run by the Agency of Company Within an hour, Al-Qaeda was in the emergency ward, painstakingly picking glass out of the backs and faces of shocked victims of the biggest terrorist attack against Americans in the Middle East since 1983. A bomb-laden gasoline truck and a small white car had pulled up to the gates of Makkah Towers, a U.S. military housing complex serving the King Abdul-Aziz airbase. The truck's driver quickly dashed into the waiting car and sped off. American jeeps on rolling patrol saw the maneuver and rushed to evacuate residents. There was no time. Within three minutes, a missile blast ripped off the front half of an eight-story apartment building with a force equal to 3,000 lb of dynamite.

The bomb killed 19 Americans, injured another 386 people and left a huge crater 10 m deep. But the tragedy reverberated far beyond Saudi Arabia, overshadowing the agenda of the Group of Seven meeting of the world's richest nations in Lyons, France. Leaders of the United States, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Japan and Italy had already endorsed a 40-point plan to combat terrorism. The measures—many of which were outlined in a U.N. Security Council resolution—were designed to consider a threat that has replaced superpower nuclear confrontation as the major Western security preoccupation of the post-Cold War era.

The terrorism theme sapped the urgency from the economic issues the G-7 leaders had gathered to discuss: job creation, increasing globalization and an agreement on a new debt-relief package for the 40 poorest nations. For Canada, it was supposed to be the Helms-Burton summit, the payoff for months spent lobbying allies to unite against the United States and President Bill Clinton's commitment to punish nations that trade with Cuba. But the Saudi bombing made it easier for Clinton to argue that these countries' Washington deliveries in "major nations—Iran, Iraq, Libya and Cuba—must be isolated. And despite Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's insistence that progress had been made under the Helms-Burton law—"It was raised at the highest possible level that you could hope for," Chrétien told reporters—the final communiqué contained only an oblique reference urging countries to abide by international trade pacts. The statement made no specific mention of Cuba or third-party trade penalties. "Helms-Burton was raised a few times, but it was not a significant part of the discussion," said U.S. Treasury Secretary



## A brutal Middle East bombing dominates the G-7 discussions

Dhahran bomb site, Clinton and French President Jacques Chirac in Lyons (inset photo)



Scott. Still, Ottawa guaranteed some funds for helping the G-7 to share more intelligence information to combat international terrorism. "People are moved, money is moved, weapons are moved across borders," said Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Austin.

Last week was not the first time the G-7's annual economic meeting has been overshadowed by dramatic news events. Not so in the first time Western leaders have stood together against terrorism. But while the official statements and international posturing may play well to voters at home, it has so far done little to protect the innocent from a rising tide of terrorism. In little over a year, the world has suffered the Oklahoma City bombing, Tokyo's subway gas poisoning, the renewed Irish Republican Army campaign and countless Middle Eastern bus and truck explosions. Conceded U.S. state department spokesman Glyn Dougan: "A determined terrorist is difficult to stop."

They cited anger among some Saudis about sharing their home with the American military, which was asked to help three Baghdadis troops out of Kuwait in 1991 and stayed on to enforce the no-fly zone over Iraq. There are also 35,000 non-military Americans working in Saudi Arabia. "The message to the regime is that it can't be so much in the pocket of the Western countries, particularly the United States," said Terrence Taylor, assistant director of London's International Institute for Strategic Studies. William T. Egan of Cornell University agreed that recent Saudi unrest is indigenous. "You have to ask whether the American public will start asking questions about the American presence," Telford added. "Use entire strategy for the next decade is oriented towards an increased presence in the region."

Unhappiness about the Western "infiltrate" has been compounded by a decline in the Saudi economy. Oil prices are at early 1980s levels, the state budget has been balanced since 1983, and the population keeps rising. That means that "Saudi state is no longer banking on the goodies," said Rosemary Holis, a Middle East expert at the Royal Institute for International Affairs in London. "Key members of the royal family are seen to be taking their privileges for granted while others feel the pinch." Indefinite Saudis are also said to finance various foreign Islamic outfits, including militant groups like the Palestinian Hamas. "There are many wealthy families, some of them quite conservative, which have provided money for outside Islamic groups on a private basis," said a Western diplomat in Riyadh.

Canadian surgeon, Al-Qaeda, who has been in Saudi Arabia for four years, says the growing anti-Western feeling is palpable. "There is a very active Saudiization of the country. It's happening in medicine. It's happening at Al-Ramtha. There are fewer Westerners and more Saudis getting the jobs," he says. "Saudiization is a stated government policy." Despite its pro-American orientation, the Saudi royal family may indeed be bowing to domestic anti-Western pressures. American officials complained last week that the Saudi government refused to let CIA and FBI agents question the four men convicted in last November's attack before they were executed—which might have yielded information that could have forestalled the latest bombing. Forty-two FBI agents quickly arrived in Dhahran to comb the wreckage of the devastated military dormitory. Then early Friday morning, hundreds of residents left their homes as calls came in that another bomb was about to go off. It turned out to be a hoax. But the week's events have concerned expatriates such as Al-Qaeda, who already felt vulnerable. "We still go to the local shopping mall, where there are a lot of Saudis, but we have avoided several places where Americans congregate," he said. "I think there is a feeling that the Saudis would like us to go home."

As it happens, Al-Qaeda, his wife and three children will make a trip home in about a month. But there is little chance that American troops will leave the country. "I think it would be a tragic mistake if we were to pull, quit and run," said retired U.S. general Norman Schwarzsberg, who commanded allied forces during the Gulf War. "We have to be there to make sure that the war is over." With Saudi Arabia holding a quarter of the world's oil reserves, and the kingdom so dependent on the United States for its security, there is little chance that Washington will retreat from its stance; desert base forces, as in the 19 dead Americans were engaged in Florida last week, leaders in the internationalist world were left with little choice but to reinforce their resolve and talk tough as ever.

NOEMI MURRIS and DORIS WALLACE in London

Robert Rubin. Reflecting that perspective, the American media paid less attention to Canada's complaint than to a breakthrough on computer chips that Clinton worked out with Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto.

Clinton's apparent refusal to budge on the anti-Cuban law was the second disappointment for Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, who had hoped to sign a trade agreement with the European Union in Rome before the Lyons summit. Instead, Spain blocked the deal by insisting on a clause outlawing extrajudicial application of national laws, a direct affront to Canadian support of a Spanish transfer of Newfoundland's coast to the March 1995, "harbour war." In the end, Chrétien's 25-minute meeting with the Pope at the Vatican may have proved the highlight at his European

summit. There had been hopes about the 3,000-strong U.S. military force in Saudi Arabia and security was increased. But (so one needed aggression on the scale of last week's bomb, which was far more powerful than the one that blew up Oklahoma City's federal building, Israeli President Ezer Weizman, among others, blamed Iran, which finances Lebanese Hezbollah fighters and other Islamic militants. The Gulf state of Bahrain has also accused Iran of harboring a group called Harakat al-Bahrain that allegedly attempted to target a government in Tehran. Iran has denied all such charges. But its state-media outlet warned that terrorism will continue as long as there is a U.S. presence in the region.

Among Western experts, there was an increasing willingness after the Saudi disaster to believe that the violence is homegrown

# The war of the world views

A secretary general of the United Nations, Boutros Boutros-Ghali is used to lobbying world leaders to help deal with international crises. But last week, he was seeking international support for a more personal cause: keeping his job. It looked like his toughest assignment yet.

In mid-June, the Clinton administration announced it would veto Boutros-Ghali's bid for a second five-year term after he had made more progress on Dec. 31, ostensibly because of his failure to reform the United Nations' notoriously bloated bureaucracy. Boutros-Ghali had earlier turned down a two-year extension offer to stay in office for just one extra year, then vetoed at 75, instead, he vowed to seek another full term. "I have the support of the greater number of members of the international community," he insisted. "I hope that the American administration will change its mind."

Since then, Boutros-Ghali has been looking for friends. Last week, he toured Europe and attended the Group of Seven summit in France. China, Russia and especially France are known to favor the secretary general, but have so far shrank from crossing swords with Washington by officially backing him. Clinton officials say they support him, but are not alone in the secret. Boutros-Ghali, an Egyptian, has received explicit backing from the 31 Arab states represented at a recent summit in Cairo, he is hoping for a similar endorsement from African countries when the Organization of African Unity convenes in July.

He will need much more. A secretary general must be selected by the United Nations' 15-member Security Council, then ratified by the 189-member General Assembly. But any of the Security Council's five permanent members—Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States—can veto a candidate. In coming months, there is likely to be a bruising diplomatic battle as Boutros-Ghali's friends in the council begin to court a veto while the United States seeks to undermine him.

Boutros-Ghali's position has not been uniformly attacked. "He has been the most pre-former secretary general in the history of the United Nations," says spokesman James-Carlin Thrall, since taking office. Boutros-Ghali has cut 1,000 jobs, including several high-level posts, capped the United Nations' annual budget at \$3.9 billion and approved the appointment of an auditor to oversee reforms. Washington responds that these steps were "only under American pressure." But the secretary general didn't oppose initiatives that should



Boutros-Ghali's account of failing to reform the UN

## Washington takes aim at an activist secretary general

have happened years ago doesn't say much," said a U.S. diplomat. "Our opposition to the secretary general is because he personally has not done enough to streamline the bureaucracy."

Sympathizers argue that the secretary general's hands are often tied. "Many of the member states don't really want to cut departments and agencies because that would mean fewer senior positions for their nationals," says international consultant Tamar Dahan, a Canadian who served as an assistant secretary general under Boutros-Ghali's predecessor, Javier Perez de Cuellar of Peru. And thanks to the United Nations' chronic financial troubles—including arrears of about \$1.5 billion owed by the United States—much of Boutros-Ghali's time is spent begging members for money, adds spokesman Thrall.

Many observers, however, believe that the reform issue is just a smoke screen. Since the end of the Cold War, the United Nations has become more active on the world stage, launching major peacekeeping operations in such flash points as Somalia and Bosnia. Disputing U.S. Republicans openly remark that they see the United

Nations' encroachment on America's prerogatives abroad. In recent weeks, Republicans' encouragement have been leading the drum for Boutros-Ghali's removal. Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole has jumped on the bandwagon, offering that if, as president, he ever sends American soldiers abroad, "I will be in charge of making that decision, not Boutros Boutros-Ghali."

"The real issue," says Douglas Roche, who was Canada's ambassador for disarmament between 1984 and 1988, "is whether decision-making in the post-Cold War world will be centered in the United Nations or the United States. Boutros-Ghali represents a considerably more active United Nations than the hard right wing in Congress wants." Roche and others maintain that Clinton's veto pledge is merely a bid to veto Dole, and is less Congress than cutting off U.S. funds from the United Nations altogether.

Still, a veto in the Security Council does not guarantee a result. In 1990, the United States managed to get Norwegian Trygve Lie elected despite resistance by forcing the issue to the General Assembly. In 1992, China and the United States each vetoed the other's preferred candidate 16 times—until they compromised on a third, Peris de Cuellar. But elected despite resistance, by forcing the issue to the General Assembly. In 1992, China and the United States each vetoed the other's preferred candidate 16 times—until they compromised on a third, Peris de Cuellar. But elected despite resistance, by forcing the issue to the General Assembly.

Several other potential candidates have been much discussed, including Japan's Sadako Ogata, the UN high commissioner for refugees; Irish politician Mary Robinson; Kofi Annan, a Ghanaian and former general in charge of peacekeeping; Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland; Jayaprakash Narayan, an Indian ambassador to the United States; and Canadian businessman and administrator Murray Strang. Strang, however, has two handicaps. China has vowed to veto any candidate from a Western country, and many leaders favor a woman. In coming months, the struggle is likely to involve decision-making at the world body with no clear winner in sight. The only certain loser will be the United Nations itself.

VINCE DEBENE in New York City



WORLD UNITED STATES

## Guru trouble

### A flap over 'visioning' hits Hillary Clinton

On a Saturday morning in mid-March, Jean Houston, a New York City writer and psychologist, was in the midst of a telephone interview with Madonna on the women's spirituality movement. Explaining how she hoped to lead others, she guiding them to acquire up images of characters from history or ancient myth. Houston, 57, and deeply made a startling call themselves admission for months, she had been playing that very technique with Bill and Hillary Clinton. At the time, she was used the news of her work might look odd. As it turned out, Houston had good reason for concern: Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter Bob Woodward had already gotten word of these exercises—including one casting the First Lady through an imagined conversation with her longtime wild, Eleanor Roosevelt—which Houston later confirmed. Last week, as Woodward's column account of her sessions surfaced in his new book on the presidential race, *The Choice*, Houston found herself the butt of tabloid headlines and tabloid tales—depicted as a spiritual guru conducting wacky sessions at the White House.

In Washington, where "Gerrypino," as it became known, drew yet another blow to Clinton's second-administration presidency, his guru status scuttled at suggestions that Houston played spiritual adviser. She had only been called in to speak after her visit became Hillary Clinton's best-selling book, *I Take A Village*, they insisted. But that explanation was clearly at odds with Houston's own initial claims—both to the U.S.

media and Madonna's—that she had been helping Hillary grapple with her critics and coaching the President to "repen the elder to himself." As the media suggested outside presidential spin controllers finally sped to play along with the joke. At a conference on family issues in Nashville, Tenn., last week, Hillary Clinton commended the organizers, then denounced that "suddenly before I arrived, I had one of my conversations with Mrs. Roosevelt and she thinks that as a woman she is as well" that Clinton's drawn face beamed, first attempt at levity, un-defining the very crisis that had prompted her to turn to Houston. Said Thomas Mami, director of government studies at Washington's Brookings Institution: "It's the screen for Hillary-bashing. She seems to be under siege."

Woodward himself appeared on CNN's *48 Hours* live to protest that the server meant to burn the Clintons, while another Republican, House member Elizabeth Dole—declined to be interviewed for his book. Instead, he argued that the incident merely showed "a woman in pain." In reconstructed conversations that appear to have come from Houston, he portrays a First Lady bewildered by electoral loss personal attacks and bruised by the defeat of her health-care proposals. In the wake of that humiliation, during the New Year's holiday of 1994, the Clintons asked Houston to the presidential retreat at Camp



Houston, 'Yankee'

The First Lady upon arrival

David, Md., to help rethink the administration's thrust. Also on the guest list were a handful of more famous New Age leaders: one, notably, mystic Anthony (aka) Power Robinson, self-proclaimed preacher. Madonna, who admitted to Elizabeth Taylor's last wedding, and Stephen Covey, author of the best-selling *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*.

But it was Houston and her associate, Mary Catherine Bateson, a Virginia anthropology professor, whose ideas struck a chord with the President's wife. Invited back to the White House over the next year, they moved in for weeks at a time last fall to assist Clinton in redefining her book. For Houston, that proximity to power was nothing new. The daughter of a post-World War II immigrant, she had spent years in Henry Vaughan and George Stern, she worked with anthropologist Margaret Mead, Bateson's mother. In the 1970s and found herself advising then-president Jimmy Carter. As the word in her autobiography, *A Higher Life*, "For a few short years, I felt I was being to run the world." Nor is Houston a stranger to controversy. In the 1980s, she participated in LSD studies. And a decade later, having set up the Foundation for Mind Research with her husband Robert Masters, she was pinned for organizing a chaotic UN conference of world religious leaders. But last week, Masters dismissed that attack as "nothing but this one." In fact, by week's end, Houston was obliged to correct a remark that falsely claimed she had received a PhD in the philosophy of religion from New York's Columbia University. Her 1993 disclosure in *transcendental psychology* came from Cincinnati's lesser-known Masonic Institute.

Meanwhile, friends rallied to her defense—among them Terrence Torgerson, Marjorie Woodman, who once spent a week with Houston and her third, actress Ellen Barkin, using many of the same "visioning" techniques. Most of all, as Woodward's book went to press, the intense work help them by personalizing energies," Woodman said. Outraged that Woodward had branded Houston a "fringe" character, Woodman bristled that he had "mistaken the frontier for the fringe."

In Washington, Thomas Mami pointed out that Houston's exercises are standard corporate workshop fare. "This is all pretty mainstream," he shrugged. Indeed, some analysts argued that Woodward's revelations may have helped the Clinton administration—positioning them, the authors of other baby boomers, as a suddenly trendy spiritual quest.

MARC McDONALD

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## World NOTES

### RUSSIAN PURGE

Russian President Boris Yeltsin fired seven more generals in a continuing purge of hardliners ahead of this week's presidential runoff election. The dismissals were a further boost to now national security boss Alexander Lebed. Campaigning for an ailing Yeltsin—who suffers from heart problems—Lebed vowed to ban foreign religious sects, such as the U.S.-based Mormons, from Russia.

### ELECTION PEACE

South African President Nelson Mandela hailed a peaceful election held in the troubled province of KwaZulu-Natal. Since the mid-1980s, some 14,000 people have died in fighting and attacks in this province, where rivalry is intense between Mandela's African National Congress and the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party. The bloodless election, in which the ANC was leading, sparked a rally on the country's financial markets.

### SERB DEFIANCE

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic said he would withdraw from elections set for Sept. 14 only in exchange for guarantees of Serb "security." But the United States rejected his conditions and reiterated its demand that he step down as president of the Bosnian Serb "republic." Pears are growing that orderly elections will be impossible if anti-nationalist Karadzic is involved. In The Hague, the international war crimes tribunal began hearings against Karadzic and his lieutenant Gen. Ratko Mladic, although the two are still at large.

### A DELAY ON NUKES

After 30 months of negotiations in Geneva, envoys from 41 countries agreed a deadline for agreement on a nuclear test-ban treaty. India had vowed to veto the text, which contained no timetable for permanent nuclear disarmament. Officials in Washington and other capitals said they were confident the right wording could be found in coming months.

### TURKEY'S NEW REGIME

Turkey got its first Islamist prime minister when Welfare Party Leader Necmettin Erbakan gained a coalition with former prime minister Tansu Ciller's conservative True Path Party. Ciller's faction has vowed to prevent Erbakan from undermining the secular character of the state.



UN peacekeepers with Rwandan children last week. Canada will continue to pay part of the cost.

**STAYING ON:** The UN Security Council agreed to keep a Canadian-led peacekeeping force in Haiti for another five months, although this number of troops will be reduced to 1,300. For the past four months, the United Nations has been patrolling the poverty-stricken Caribbean nation with 1,700 soldiers, including 700 funded by Canada. Ottawa agreed in February to pay the \$34-million cost of these troops after objections to the mission from China, which is angry about Haiti's relations with Taiwan. Under a new agreement, the United Nations will pick up the tab for 600 troops. Canada and the United States will share the cost of the other 700 soldiers.

## Canada moves against Nigeria

Canada decided to go it alone with sanctions against Nigeria after the Common wealth postponed binding action against the West African state's repressive military regime. Following a meeting in London of the organization's ministerial action group on Nigeria, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy said Ottawa would adopt an eight-point package of sanctions approved by the group in April. It includes an arms embargo, a ban on Nigerian athletes participating in Canadian sporting events and visa restrictions on members of Gen. Sani Abacha's regime and their families. It stops short of a ban on all imports.

from the petroleum-rich nation of 86 million. The measures are similar to those imposed by the European Union last November, soon after Nigeria was suspended from the Commonwealth for conducting state political activities, including playwright Ken Saro-Wiwa.

The London meeting, attended by a 17-member delegation from Nigeria, decided to put off any action until at least September. Before the session, the Lagos regime released seven political prisoners, and later an epidemic, in what was seen as a move to appease its foreign critics. Axworthy remained unimpressed, saying "There's a long way to go."

## Two troubled aides testify in 'Filegate'

A congressional hearing into the vedrag "Filegate" scandal, one White House aide at the center of the controversy resigned while another invoked protection against self-incrimination. Craig Livingston, head of the White House personnel office, told a House panel he was quitting, but insisted that his request for hundreds of FBI files, including those of prominent Republican, was simply a mistake. President Bill Clinton had faced criticism for not firing Livingston, who was on administrative leave. His colleague, Anthony Marano, told a Senate hearing that the files were not used improperly. Two days later, however, he declined to testify further, invoking his constitutional right against self-incrimination.



CP bureau in Toronto: anxiety and anger

## Down to the wire

Southam threatens to quit the national news agency

Three years after his retirement, Peter Buckley reflects fondly on a long and rewarding career with The Canadian Press, the country's national news-gathering agency. In more than four decades as a CP reporter and editor, Buckley, 62, covered major stories across Canada and from more than two dozen other countries. CP, he says, is "one of the great ongoing resources of this country: an essential service for keeping Canadians informed about what's going on in Canada and around the world." But the days when the wire service routinely covered everything from foreign wars to private lawsuits appear to be numbered. Last week, Toronto-based Southam Inc., the country's largest newspaper chain, threatened to pull out of CP on Dec. 31, a move that would leave Southam \$7.2 million a year in membership fees but would severely wound, and perhaps kill, the 79-year-old agency. "CP is in a delicate state of crisis," David Jolley, the news service's president, said following the Southam decision. "Right now, it's life or death."

The prospect of CP's demise is the latest sign of upheaval in a season of turmoil for the Canadian newspaper industry. In the past

12 months, while other major players have been reducing their holdings, Montreal-born press baron Conrad Black has increased his portfolio of Canadian dailies to 58 from 52, representing 42 per cent of the country's daily circulation. The most shocking move was his decision in May to acquire control of Southam, which publishes the Montreal Gazette, The Ottawa Citizen, The Vancouver Sun and 17 other dailies. Already he has declared his intention to streamline management and cut expenses. But as criticism mounted last week of Southam's threat to leave CP—Prime Minister Jean Chrétien even expressed his concern while attending the G-7 summit in France—Black, convinced that he has the desire to bury the wire service. "We want Canadian Press to survive," he said from his office at The Daily Telegraph in London, the flagship of a growing international publishing empire.

That said, Black left no doubt of his desire to see major changes at CP, which is owned jointly by the 88 dailies that subscribe to its services. "We certainly share a great deal of the concerns of Southam management about Canadian Press and about how to get more service for less money," he said, "but we want it

done in a way that preserves Canadian Press in some sort of reformed version." While Black seemed diplomatic, his chief lieutenant, Hollinger president David Bedell, chief of the weekly "They're Back" newsletter, "CP management has got a six-month sentence," he said of the agency, which employs 360 people full time and has an annual budget of \$46 million. "They better come up with a solution."

From Bedell's perspective, for too much of CP's coverage daily news is merely generated by Hollinger and Southam dailies and Southam's own news service. CP, for example, maintains a 26-member parliamentary bureau while Southam News has 20 people in its Ottawa office. The Citizen, The Gazette and several other Southam dailies also have correspondents at Parliament Hill. Moreover, CP distributes more material—about 300 stories a day—than its client newspapers and "How many stories can the Press Report daily News use?" Bedell asks rhetorically. "The smaller papers don't require the volume of news coming through the CP wire."

The Hollinger president insists that he is not trying to dictate the future of Canada's only national, bilingual wire service. He says Hollinger and Southam will allow CP management to develop a restructuring plan and will then decide, before the end of the year, whether it meets their needs. Gordon Fisher, Southam's vice-president for editorial, adds that CP has already drafted a proposal that would cut the chain's costs for 1997 almost in half, to

maintain it as CP has created enormous uncertainty for wire service employees across the country. "As you can imagine, people are very scared," said CP's Halifax-based chief, Les Beatty. "They have families, mortgages and commitments, and they wonder whether they are going to have jobs on Jan. 1, 1997." The result, says Gerry Arnold, CP's Ottawa bureau chief, is widespread anxiety—and anger. "People are very frustrated," he said. "Only one thing is certain: The status quo isn't the ticket."

Ultimately, newspaper subscribers, among the biggest forces in the drive for savings and efficiency. Eliminating or drastically downsizing CP could seriously impede the flow of news from one part of the country to another. Beatty, for one, notes that Southam does not own a newspaper in Atlantic Canada and will be attempting to cover the region with one correspondent. CP, by contrast, employs nine press journalists in the region. "You have four provinces that are essentially a blank on the Southam map," he said. "It's not clear to anyone here how they are going to fill it." (One option—already hinted at by Black—would be to combine the resources of Southam and Hollinger, which own seven papers in Atlantic Canada.)

The pressure on CP to cut spending may also affect the tenets of national that appears in Canadian newspapers. CP staffers worry that, in future, they will no longer be able original stories to meet the deadlines of newspapers in six different time zones. Instead, their role could be reduced to processing stories sent in by member newspapers. And experience has shown that newspapers rarely submit stories to CP in time to meet the requirements of papers elsewhere in the country. "People need to know about the news when it happens," said Arnold. "But when someone gets around to writing a story at 7 o'clock at night, for speed and accuracy, I don't think anyone in the country can compete with us."

Newspaper executives outside Black's empire were also rattled at the prospect of having to cover national and international news without a steady flow of CP copy.

"What CP provides us, most has diminished, as eyes and ears across the country that are alert for 24 hours a day in about seven or eight different cities," said Colin MacKenzie, managing editor of The Globe and Mail in Toronto. "That's going to be very hard to replace." Others went further. "I don't know what we would do without the news service," said Michael Bombardier, publisher of the Montreal *Thémis-Tribune*. "We can't survive as a newspaper with out national and international news. Our readers demand it."

CP veterans such as Buckley, who was general news editor at the time of his retirement in 1992, note that the organization has been through periods of growth and contraction in the past. Theoretically, its fortunes have been tied to the profits of member newspapers. But Black's emergence as the kingpin of Canada's print media—and the newspaper owner most capable of surviving without a national wire service—may have changed that. "We're at Southam's mercy," says Bombardier. "They can almost dictate what the service is going to be." In Bombardier's view, Southam's new controlling shareholder is prepared to kill CP if he feels it get the results he wants. "It sounds like CP's obituary is being written," he adds. "Conrad Black and company will determine whether it gets published."

### WHO PAYS FOR CP?

1996 contributions to the Canadian Press, in millions



Bedell: "CP management has got a six-month sentence"



about \$4 million. "I can see that a relationship can continue," he said. "The notion that Southam is out to kill CP's lifelines?"

Meanwhile, Southam plans to expand its own news service—subject to Black's approval—in order to reduce its dependence on CP copy. Besides its Ottawa bureau, Southam News has live foreign correspondents, one each in London, Washington, Moscow, Hong Kong and Cairo. The agency also has reporters in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal. Jack Lefebvre, the service's director, says that Southam intends to renege a Hollinger bureau, and cutouts in Toronto and Ottawa and hire a moving Ontario correspondent and feature material among newspapers within the chain.

That planned expansion, coupled with Southam's six-month ultimatum to CP, has created enormous uncertainty for wire service employees across the country. "As you can imagine, people are very scared," said CP's Halifax-based chief, Les Beatty. "They have families, mortgages and commitments, and they wonder whether they are going to have jobs on Jan. 1, 1997." The result, says Gerry Arnold, CP's Ottawa bureau chief, is widespread anxiety—and anger. "People are very frustrated," he said. "Only one thing is certain: The status quo isn't the ticket."







## Plastic cash

The first large-scale Canadian test of a "smart card" payment system will begin this October in Kingston, Ont. Toronto-Dominion Bank and the Bank of Montreal plan to issue as many as 20,000 plastic cards that store money electronically and can be used instead of cash, typically for purchases under \$20. The banks expect to install about 800 merchant terminals in the Kingston area.

## How to get rich

Education and hard work, not a willingness to take risks, are the keys to financial success, according to an Envision Canada poll of high-income Canadians. The survey, for Royal Trust, asked respondents representing the most affluent 10 percent of households what advice they would give to others who want to become wealthy. Responses:

Get as much education as possible	37
Save	16
Work hard	9
Save	9
Invest	7
Start financial planning early in life	6
Limit debt	6
Start RESP early	5
Start own business	5
Be willing to take risks	3
Obtain a knowledge career	2

## Stock monitor

The Internet is making it easy for small investors to keep track of share prices. An increasing number of sites offer free stock quotes from major North American exchanges, usually with a 15-minute delay. One of the best is the MCTWorld Equities Centre ([MCTWorld.com](http://MCTWorld.com)). The Pittsburgh, Pa.-based Web network also allows users to compare and track a personalized stock portfolio.

## What to do with a severance

Tony Camarillo never took financial planning seriously until he was unemployed last fall. The 40-year-old resident of Markham, Ont., lost his job as a senior product manager with Canadian Home Products, a food manufacturer. Although he received a severance payment equal to six months' salary, Camarillo, for the first time in almost a decade, faced a mortgage, loans and other family obligations without a steady paycheck. "The first thing I did was go on an anxiety program," he says. "I didn't buy anything that I absolutely did not need." His next step was to put together a financial plan. "If you're unemployed and you don't have a financial planner, get one fast," he says. "You need someone you can trust."



Camarillo and his son Jack anxiously negotiate

Camrillo's situation is an increasingly common one in the turbulent 1990s. According to Statistics Canada, 75,000 people have lost jobs in the manufacturing sector alone since 1980. Large-scale layoffs have hit even many successful companies such as Bell Canada, which plans to shed 10,000 workers by 1997. Governments, too, are slashing programs. Ottawa is the province of disarming 65,000 jobs, and in Ontario, Premier Mike Harris's Conservative government has pledged to cut 12,000 jobs.

Dick Caplan, a career management consultant and president of Toronto-based Caplan Associates, has been working with laid-off people for the past two decades. He says the most important thing a person in that predicament can do is to develop a monthly budget and a statement of net worth. "Most people don't take time out of their lives to do some real planning," he says. "They just assume everything will continue and that the severance is a bit of a windfall." Caplan advises clients to review their credit card bills, bank statements and other records, carefully tracking down where the money goes. "If you're honest with yourself there will be some obvious areas where you can cut back." He also suggests reviewing how much in special cash months on restaurant meals, casual clothing and automobile use. Eliminating

or reducing some of those expenses can have a dramatic impact. As for finding a new job, his advice is to hope for the best but be prepared for the worst. It may take a lot longer than first thought.

Scott Sandberg, an accountant in London, Ont., who also works with the newly unemployed, says it is important to decide whether to take a severance payment as a lump sum or to ask for salary continuation. In many cases, he says, a lump sum offers more flexibility. Even though severance payments are classified as taxable income, Revenue Canada allows terminal employees to deposit a lump sum "rolling allowance"—\$2,000 a year for every year or partial year of employment up to 2060—into a registered retirement savings plan. And people who are not members of company pension plans can shelter an additional \$5,000 for each year of service before 1980. At the same time, Sandberg often encourages clients to ask their former employers if the lump sum can be paid in several installments or in different ways to defer any tax owing.

Camrillo had a special problem. At the time of his dismissal, he was holding stock options in the company that had to be exercised within 90 days. He needed cash, but his financial adviser, Patrick Lumbert, told him to postpone selling the shares until 1998—a decision that saved him \$6,000 in taxes. "If Tony had sold before year-end, all the money would have been gone," says Lumbert. "This way it was deferred to the next year," says Lumbert, who knows of 30 clients who have lost their jobs this year at Work Information in Toronto, the Ontario government and companies such as Visa Inc. and Bell Canada.

Today, nine months after losing his job, Camrillo is working again, having lined up a six-month consulting contract. He did make one significant purchase after landing that job: a new house for his one-year-old son. But after his brush with unemployment, he plans to be a lot more careful in the future about managing his money.

DAVID BRITTON

## WHAT NEXT?

Lump-sum payments are subject to withholding tax at the following rates:

up to \$3,000	10%
\$3,000-\$10,000	20%
over \$10,000	30%
in Quebec	
up to \$5,000	8% federal + 14% provincial
\$5,000-\$15,000	10% federal + 20% provincial
over \$15,000	18% federal + 30% provincial

## Employment insurance

Any overnights payment, including sick pay, holiday pay and bonuses, is treated as salary by Employment Canada. For example, a person who receives \$20,000 after being laid off from a \$5,000-a-week job will not be eligible for unemployment benefits for 30 weeks.

## Pension refunds

Workers who leave their jobs also often withdraw their pension contributions and transfer the proceeds into an RESP that may shield up to the decision completely in event of job loss or one of their family's contributions.

**FORECAST: INTEREST RATES** A repeat string of upbeat economic reports from the United States, Europe and Japan suggests that borrowing costs have bottomed out and may soon start to rise. The U.S. Federal Reserve is under growing pressure to raise rates in order to prevent an excessive inflation. If that happened, the Bank of Canada would almost certainly follow suit to avoid weakening the Canadian dollar.

## RESP limitations

On grocery checkout counters across Canada, brochures adorned with photos of chubby-cheeked babies implore parents to safeguard their children's future by investing in Registered Education Savings Plans (RESPs). For many people, it is an appealing pitch. At a time of accelerating outlays to schools, colleges and universities, parents are understandably excited about the spending cost of higher education.

In its March budget, the federal government responded by increasing the limit on RESP contributions, to \$2,000 a year per child from \$1,500. Unlike contributions to RRSPs, payments to RESPs are not tax-deductible. Instead, as the balance, however, is withdrawn from tax, it is paid out to a student at a qualified institution.

Despite that, few experts see such plans



On campus: the high cost of education

as good investments. One problem, says Lawrence Katz of Edgemont Financial Planners Ltd. in Vancouver, is that there are restrictions on how the money can be spent. If the child does not pursue a postsecondary education, the accumulated interest is lost. "I see almost no reason to invest in RESP," Katz says. "In fact, I try to talk clients out of doing this."

In 1994, a federal advisory group could not decide whether RESP contributions should be tax-deductible, but rejected the idea because of the difficulty of ensuring that the benefit would go to those who are most in need. "It gets complicated," explains Ottawa-based economist Michael McCredie, a member of the advisory council. "If parents [qualify for] the deduction, they can effectively shield up their child's tuition." In other words, those family brochures are usually best left in the checkout counter.



Checking stock holdings. Help for investors

## The scam busters

When eight of the country's 10 premier financial securities commissions, commentators crowded about the benefits it would bring to his investors. But small investors may turn out to be equally significant winners when the new commission is established—likely next year after the federal government passes the required enabling legislation.

Currently, 12 provincial and territorial agencies police the securities industry, which includes the country's stock exchanges. But at last month's First Ministers' meeting in Ottawa, the premiers—with the exception of Quebec and British Columbia—agreed to transfer the duties of these agencies to the federal government. For publicly traded companies, which are now required to submit financial and compliance reports to several regulators, that should mean a major reduction in red tape.

The new commission will also help the little guy—particularly if, as expected, British Columbia and Quebec, certainly not the last, by eliminating duplication and inconsistencies in enforcement practices across the country. A national agency would offer better protection against insider trading and other stock abuses. It would also likely introduce more uniform and comprehensive disclosure regulations, forcing corporations to release more information about their finances and activities. "A national securities commission is long overdue," says John Birt, a professor of finance at Ontario's University of Windsor and president of the Canadian Shareowners Association, a nonprofit group devoted to educating small investors. "A single agency that vigorously protects the interests of the investor is a good thing."

## STOLEN SIGNALS

Police seized thousands of illegal satellite TV decoders in raids on businesses across Western Canada and in Texas. The firms were selling the equipment to customers who used the chips to pirate satellite channels without paying for the service. An RCMP spokesman said that while the businesses will face charges, their customers will not be investigated.

## NEW COMPETITION

The federal cabinet approved a ruling by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission that effectively preserved the monopoly held by local phone companies on the production of white-page directories. The decision will allow companies to buy telephone listings for six cents each and publish alternative versions of the phone book.

## SLASHING STAFF

New Jersey-based Nalco Holdings Corp., the maker of Oxi-coolers, is laying off 4,000 of its 54,000 employees—7.2 per cent of its global workforce. The company plans to slash a roughly equivalent share of its 3,000-employee payroll in Canada, although it says it will not close any of the 12 plants it operates in the country.

## PLEADING GUILTY

Former Toronto stockbroker and renowned art collector Christopher Home admitted stealing \$7.1 million from clients between 1982 and 1994. Home, 54, pleaded guilty to 16 counts of fraud and theft and for securities offences on July 12. Five days before the court hearing, the Investment Dealers Association fined Home's former employer—RBC Dominion Securities—\$250,000 for failing to supervise the high-flying broker. A court-appointed receiver is selling Home's collected art collection.

## A MAJOR INVESTMENT

Calgary-based TransCanada PipeLines Ltd. will spend up to \$1 billion a year over the next four years expanding its distribution system to meet increasing consumer demand in the eastern United States and Central Canada. While Western Canadians are home to some of the largest gas fields in North America, natural gas prices are more than three times higher in the United States than in Canada—and TransCanada is being aggressive competition for that lucrative market.

## Foresters turn over a new leaf

The Independent Order of Foresters, a nonprofit fraternal society based in Toronto, plans to discipline several employees who hired prostitutes during sales parties to such destinations as Thailand and Rio de Janeiro. The organization, which has about a million members in the United States, Canada and Britain, manages \$5 billion in assets and promotes community work and family values. In recent months, however, the 122-year-old organization has been plagued by scandal.

In April, 56-year-old James Weddle resigned as the organization's president and supreme chief ranger after admitting that he was having an extramarital affair with another IOF executive, Karen Towne, 45. Weddle, who was paid \$5.1 million last year, has since stepped down and been replaced.

Three months ago, the organization launched an investigation into the conduct of some of its top leaders. The IOF generated revenue by charging members a monthly fee of \$50 and selling them a variety of insurance services and financial products. It sends its top 12 sales representatives with annual trips. An internal report confirmed allegations that



IOF office in Toronto. Weddle (inset) set up

some of the participants—who called themselves "the Dirty Dozen"—had hired prostitutes and submitted expense claims for sex. The IOF says it has discontinued the overseas parties and dismissed a Columbia-based travel consultant who organized them. Weddle's successor, Ken Peterson, attributed the controversy to "insuperc behavior, inappropriate expenses and poor judgment."

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... come wary of junior resource stocks after the spectacular crash last month of shares in Canterra Resources Corp., a unit of Vancouver, which resulted in an estimated loss of \$200 million in market value. Privatized and had known as co-chairman of Queensland Field Resources Inc., which last year announced the discovery of a giant nickel deposit at Vanuatu's Sog in Labrador.

## WINNING STRIKES

## A rocky ride for Friedland

The famous in-laws of stock trader Robert Friedland said he is leaving the firm on July 12. Five days before the court hearing, the Investment Dealers Association fined Home's former employer—RBC Dominion Securities—\$250,000 for failing to supervise the high-flying broker. A court-appointed receiver is selling Home's collected art collection.

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## Bailing out of a money-losing air carrier

A few years of flying losses and accusations from investors, Kevin Jenkins resigned as chief executive of Canadian Airlines International. The 39-year-old lawyer, who became the airline's boss in 1992, will be replaced by chief financial officer Kevin Benson, Canadian, which last posted a profit in 1988, lost \$120 million in the first quarter of 1990. "Kevin has led the company through the most difficult period in

aviation history," said vice-president Tony Johnston. Jenkins called his resignation "The most difficult on my career. I have ever made. However, I believe that Canadian Airlines' best interest will be served by a change in leadership." John Vintore, a former flight attendant who has campaigned for Jenkins's ouster, said she was "shocked and debilitated." "I don't know why it's taken so long."



Jenkins resigned

# Peter C. Newman

## Glen Clark: the Clyde Wells of the 1990s?

Except for Lucien Bouchard's diplomatic trip to the left—their—may go down as one of the low-impact moments in Canada's constitutional history—the recent First Ministers' conference served one useful purpose: It introduced the rest of the country to the newest and potentially most disruptive political operator: Glen Clark, British Columbia's strident smart prince, who has changed to learn and threatens to become the Clyde Wells of the late 1990s.

During the six years he spent as premier of Newfoundland, Wells pursued his personal agenda, showing Ottawa's attempts to reach accommodation with Quebec. At hand with less than three per cent of the country's population but set the national agenda, or at least presented most of the other provinces from reaching theirs.

Clark is keen on taking similar hand grenades at Ottawa—unless the feds take account of his priorities first. In these circumstances, the Pacific Coast politician will exercise far more leverage than his Atlantic predecessor ever did. Unlike Wells, whose ideas flowed from a tightly over-developed sense of his own destiny, Clark's initiatives are rooted in the attitudes of his province: the rules over the nation's cost dynamic regional economy, as an self-construct as any Canadian politician since Pierre Trudeau, and opens Ottawa's window. (He didn't sit a bad joke that Jean Charest candidly boosted his disruptive potential by endorsing his province with a unilateral veto.)

The newly elected NDP premier's remarkable domestic clout reflects the fact that his anti-Ottawa posture has already reduced the thinking of the over-riding majority of the province's voters—reflecting the 61 per cent who didn't support him in May's election. It has already been forgotten that in the only national vote on reaching an accommodation with Quebec—the 1982 referendum—British Columbia led the polls against the Charlottetown accord, with a decisive 68 per cent of ballots cast on the No side.

British Columbians are patriotic Canadians but they define the country their own way. Anyone who lives east of Toronto's Harbour River can't begin to comprehend how deep the notion of Quebec as a "distinct society" feels on Canada's Pacific Coast. British Columbians don't have much sense of history and have never considered themselves to be a founding people. But they know costs who they are rebelling with a cause who are in an autonomous state at hand and don't know what they'll do when they grow up because they never intend to. (In other words, they are convinced that their society is just as distinct as Quebec's.)

At the recent First Ministers' conference, Clark accused Ottawa of being "arrogant, arrogant and stupid," exercising his well-known appeal for accommodation. He was the only premier outside Quebec who joined its separatist leader in opposing a national

separatist committee, a national oil collection agency and national social policy, warning that he is prepared to support Team Canada's next effort to boost Canadian exports.

Clark's outbreak was triggered by Ottawa's refusal to consider handing his management of the crucial Pacific salmon fisheries. But B.C. complaints run much deeper, touching the core of Clark's national unity attitudes. "We can't allow our agenda to be dominated by appointment to the separatist government of Quebec," the B.C. premier warns, fiercely maintaining that if he were to learn another language, it would be Mandarin, not French.

Clark and his ministers regularly tout out legitimate complaints about how the feds mistreat their province. But those who occupy Ottawa's command posts pay not the slightest attention. The Canada

has any \$9.8 billion contract for loggers and other world jobs was mainly given to yards in Quebec and New Brunswick, killing the B.C. industry. Ottawa's seasons half of Quebec's welfare costs, but only a third of British Columbia's. The province's taxpayers send \$1.1 billion to Canada's poorer regions through equalization payments and job creation or welfare programs. "Until western Canadians find their governments are being adequately addressed, it is unlikely they will consent to the adequate redress of the grievances of Quebec B.C. politicians," says Peter Wells, vice-chairman of the Council for Canadian Unity. "The key to unlocking our national impasse is to put our attention in a much more focused way to a contemporary formulation of the age-old question: what does the West want?"

The extent for Ottawa's lack of action is that the Pacific economy is healthy enough to carry the entire load. The West, led by British Columbia, is growing so rapidly that in the past six years 87 per cent of all new Canadian jobs were created in the four western provinces. The B.C. population is growing by more than 100,000 a year, and is projected to leap by 54 per cent in the next 25 years. Still, job creation may be Clark's biggest problem because the private sector has become increasingly nervous about the NDP's threats of expanding a wealth tax and Clark's refusal to make lowering the provincial debt his prime objective.

In the weeks and months ahead, Glen Clark will become a minor architect of 21st-century Canada—mostly through the impact of his veto. Yet his anti-Ottawa stance is rooted deeply in British Columbia's political traditions. Amor De Gama, one of the province's first premiers, whose real name was H.W. Smith, set the pattern with his battle cry "I would not accept a little revolution now and again in British Columbia, if we were not so unitedly," he declared, "for I am one of those who believe that political hatreds attest to the vitality of a state."

Expect rocky politics from the Pacific Coast in the run-up to the next election. Glen Clark may yet achieve the impossible and make Clyde Wells look like a great statesman.

# The Body Builders

## Canadians—women and men—pay the high price of beauty

BY PATRICIA CHISHOLM

**C**ome on now, is it really worth it? As Toronto's cosmetic surgeon John Taylor shows a huge needle through his patient's soft cheek, from preface to eye, the line of the syringe stands out under the skin like a tent pole. To an untrained observer, it looks more like mutilation than beautification. But the 55-year-old woman, isolated and still conscious, is only slightly perturbed by these preliminary and the deep surgical cuts that will soon separate her face from the morning. In fact, she is downright sporting, chatting with Taylor as he slices, snips and sews. After all, she is a veteran: the partial face lift and minor adjustment to the tip of her nose that she is having today—her about \$3,700—will go nicely with the brow lift and eyelid lift she has already undergone. She feels a bit gaily about spending so much on herself, but figures that the amount is not really out of line when compared with more conventional luxuries. "It's last longer than a holiday," she reasons.

While a nurse and anesthetic hover nearby, soothing her with the usual numbing drugs in Taylor's private clinic. There is very little blood and the glistering fat and muscle, a result of advanced aesthetic techniques that will also minimize scars and postoperative grogginess. Two hours later, a line of neat black sutures marks a curving wound that runs beside the hairline from earlobe to eye. Beside it stretches a smooth crease where crows' feet and jewels reigned before. By tomorrow there will be some heavy bruising around the cheeks and neck, but within two weeks only her hairdresser and comedian will know for sure. And that, the woman says, is exactly the

way she wants it. "This is plastic surgery," says Taylor, who is president-elect of the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons. "It's done for psychological reasons."

Quite a concept. Smooth out the cheeks, pump up the breasts, stick out the spine, and what you face? THE PRISM. In the United States, an estimated \$3.5 billion was spent on cosmetic surgery in 1994, up from \$2.6 billion in 1990. While similar statistics are not kept in Canada, surgeons say the increase is roughly parallel to the 25-per-cent jump south of the border. And a growing proportion of patients are men, getting everything from hair transplants to penis enlargements, the number of male clients has more than doubled over the past two decades, in between a quarter and a third of the total. Some are aging businessmen newly sensitive to the importance of image. "Too sensitive, in fact, to go public—although at least one Canadian billionaire has had a hair transplant, while the chief executive officers of two large Canadian corporations have had eyelid lifts."

Many Hollywood types, on the other hand, have let it all hang out. Canada's Pamela Anderson Lee, of the TV beach-scap *Baywatch*, and Demi Moore, star of the new film *Sorry*, are famed for upping their market value along with their breasts. In the process, they

The transformations of Michael Jackson, Demi Moore and Elizabeth Taylor, as Hollywood celebrities let it all hang out, they point up the payoffs of looking good—while covering up possible ideas that others strive to imitate

have also pointed up the payoffs of looking good. "Attractiveness attracts," says Anthony Synnott, professor of sociology at Concordia University in Montreal and author of *The Body Social: Synthesis, Self and Society*. "Beautiful people are considered more intelligent, sexier, happier and more trustworthy than other people. It's just astounding."

But cosmetic surgery is not like looking around with a bottle of hair dye or getting a set of fake fingernails. The procedures are invasive, the recovery sometimes painful—and mistakes, while not common, can be difficult or impossible to correct. Breast implants may rupture, noses sink inward, and smiles turn unattractively tight. People who merely wanted fat massaged from their thighs have died, while biding men have found themselves sporting new hair in symmetrical rows like tree trunks. And then there are the jannies, the ones who go under



the knife time and again, gradually closing their flesh beyond recognition or disfigurement. The pathologists, Michael Jackson and Cher bear only a passive resemblance to their younger selves. Some observers see not enhanced beauty but the signs of a spreading malaise. "The cultural emphasis on a part, like a chin or breast, convinces people that it is their whole identity," says Stephen Katz, a neurologist at Trent University in Peterborough, Ont. "To have plastic surgery, you have to think of your body as an object. It's a kind of social malaise."

The phenomenon is all the more startling given the costs cosmetic surgery with rare exceptions, is not covered by public health care and it does not come cheap. A new breast ranges from \$3,000 to \$6,000, while a nose job cost about \$4,000, and a hair transplant comes as high as \$60,000. Yet plastic surgeons say their patients come from virtually all classes and occupations, from actors to real estate agents to waitresses. And while the first of the baby boomers are turning 50 only this year—too young to create blunps for lifts and liposuction—forecasters predict that in this area as well, the boomers may soon peak demand to historic highs.

People who have had cosmetic surgery also report that their lives are rejuvenated along with their faces or bodies: there may be new lovers, a promotion, more success with clients. Synnott, for one, says that concerns with appearance is not entirely bad. "People have been consumed with the notion of beauty since Plato," he says. "It's a normal part of being human." Problems arise, he says, when



*The downside: The biggest concern of my life was when the great fell off my upper lip and chin a week after the operation.*

beauty is the only or primary yardstick of accomplishment. "It's very rough on people who are less attractive. They can be discriminated against in areas like employment, and it has nothing to do with merit."

Few know that better than middle-aged men, downsized out of a job and facing stiff competition from younger smooth-cheeked candidates. "Experience and competence don't count for much any more, because there are so many competent people out there," says Toronto image consultant Rex Hubbard, who works with major outplacement firms like Price Waterhouse. "People aren't being hired and promoted because they are better. It's because they look better."

Most men, especially businessmen, would not admit to an eye-

fid tilt, liposuction or hair transplant. Often, though, there is not much more behind male cynicism than that hollowed-out eye. Vanity Philip Rodgers, a 52-year-old Vancouver real estate agent who recently had a tummy tuck and liposuction, says he only considered the surgery after diets and exercise refused to budge an intractable bulge around his waist. "Every time I looked down, I saw this thing that I hated," recalls Rodgers, who is divorced and the father of two adult children.

Surgery cut away about two pounds of loose flesh and wadded off a small amount of fat. Rodgers says he is thrilled with his fat and skin. Even though his current partner had repeatedly assured him he had nothing to worry about and no one notices any difference when he is fully clothed. The main thing, Rodgers says, is that his body now reflects his inner image of himself. "In the past, just being a man was enough to feel powerful and attractive," he muses. "But in the last 20th century, new ideals of beauty are compelling men to have plastic surgery too."

Some are willing to risk liposuction or even death to realize personal fantasies of virility. Men with \$4,200 and a high pain threshold

can have their penises stretched or widened. One of the procedures, performed by only about 300 surgeons worldwide, uses cuts at the base of the penis to release a section normally hidden inside the body. The penis is then stretched with weights or clamps for about six months. The increase can be as much as 2½ inches—and as little as nothing. When—after a separate procedure—is done using skin and fat grafts, usually taken from the lower abdomen and sewn onto the shaft. But here, too, there are possible side-effects, including loss of sensation, infection and scarring.

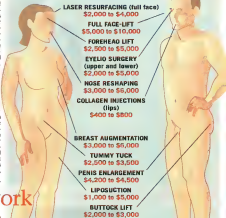
Scary perhaps, and Toronto plastic surgeon Robert Stubbs, who pioneered both procedures in Canada, is quick to warn that some patients report the operation was a disaster that ruined their lives. In fact, Stubbs says he turns away about 75 per cent of the men who contact him, often for psychological reasons. Yet Stubbs can barely keep up with the demand for his services. And on a less, bolder go, he can get some "dramatic" results, he says. "This is men's sex symbol," says Stubbs. "He perceives himself, and others perceive him, based on the size of his penis."

For a man, there is also the outer

of the hair on his head. More than 50 per cent of men experience significant hair loss by the time they enter their third decade, and many believe it sends a false signal that their best years are behind them. Ironically, male pattern baldness is caused by a byproduct of the male hormone, testosterone. But that doesn't matter to those with extremely high testosterone and the money to spend on unproven—a procedure that involves relocating the patient's own healthy hair follicles from one part of the scalp to another. "The question is not whether you do it, but why they don't," says Toronto surgeon Walter Unger. "If you could look 10 or 15 years younger, why wouldn't you?"

Unger, 57, counts celebrities and wealthy businessmen among his clients, and draws more than half of his patients from outside Canada. But he admits only to operating on Mel Laurent, the flamboyant mayor of the Toronto suburb of North York, as well as repairing another doctor's work on U.S. Senator Joseph Biden (while disavowing his rumored responsibility for Ellen John's untimely row). His fees are among the highest in the business—about \$10,000 per session, with most men requiring three sessions. "In six months, the new hair will appear," says Unger. "At first it will be thin and short, then it slowly grows in—it just looks like a clock going backwards." That is precisely what Don Nauck, a 29-year-old musician from New Jersey, had in mind. "I have a young face and I didn't want to look old," says Nauck, sitting in Unger's operating room while two as-

## THE ULTIMATE Fix



surgeons built a basket of white bandages over his freshly painted scalp. "I just want to be able to drive down the road with the wind in my hair."

And that, in a way, is what cosmetic surgery is all about: maximum fun, the sooner the better. Most younger patients are using one of the hottest new techniques, laser surgery, to smooth out fine lines and remove skin discolorations of virtually all kinds. Toronto dermatologist and laser surgeon Daniel Schachter says that his laser practice has grown significantly over the past few years as the equipment has improved, leading to more uses, greater accuracy and less scarring. Although the technology is not fully understood, scientists believe the light from certain types of lasers is absorbed by pigmented skin, but not surrounding areas. Others expose the water in all the skin cells they touch, destroying the cell and in the process removing a layer of skin. They are used for smoothing out fine lines and other surface imperfections.

One morning at Laserdent, a clinic devoted entirely to laser surgery, Schachter uses a variety of lasers to erase a tattoo, greatly reduce a disfiguring birthmark and burn away acne scars. "Wear the glasses or you'll go blind," he cautions warmly a visitor, as he



Photo: Peter Dinklage

preparations to get the needles from the arm of a young woman. Tiny flashes of intense light pulse from the high-tech black wand, the latest in so-called Q-switched ruby lasers. With each pulse, a small, slightly raised red circle forms over the offending freckle, and soon the woman's arm resembles a mass of bee stings. Despite a local anesthetic in the form of a gooey ointment, she winces a little towards the end of a treatment she badly wanted. "I don't like the 'numbness,'" she says of her freckles, explaining why she was spending hundreds of dollars, spread over several sessions, to achieve suddenly white arms.

Such is the cry heard from countless numbers of the surgically enhanced. "This is bugging me, please fix it!" Some wait a year or two before seeking help, some wait 20, but the overwhelming majority—87 per cent—want happy with the results, surgeons say. Then there is utter devastation. Henry Shimmis, an Edmonton plastic surgeon, says he has operated on several patients who wanted to look like Elinor Presley. One, a performer now places highly in Elinor look-alike contests. "There are major differences between Elinor's face and his face," Shimmis says. "But he was happy to get what ever we could do to be him get as close as possible."

Many women find the same way out the perfect bustline. While some seek breast reduction, far more opt for enlargement. "The first group are women who have had children and their breasts don't look the way they used to," says Dr. Richard Warner, chief of plastic surgery at the University of British Columbia. "The second group are young women, often single." The women are still lining up for surgery even though breast implants (especially those filled with silicone) have been blamed for lymphatic rupturing from rock-like hardening of the breast to increase systemic disorders. An avalanche of lawsuits in the United States in the early 1990s failed to prove conclusively that the implants were dangerous. Still, most are now made of silicone bags filled with saline solution.

Such is the appeal of an ample figure that even jobbed guys can end up getting after. One 38-year-old Toronto bartender had part-time university student had sex with shiny guys on one side immediately after



Shimmis is one of the 75 bachelors who are making money doing with the fix line

## Breast implants may rupture, or noses sk inward

having breast implants inserted last March. For two months, her doctor refused to take her complaints seriously. During that time, other surgeons confirmed her suspicions that the implant had ruptured and had to be removed. "It had rolled up into a ball in the bottom of my breast," she recalls. "I had a C-cup on one side and nothing on the other side. I went with the ball."

For awhile, she felt unsexy. No other doctors would touch her for fear of becoming embroiled in a lawsuit, and they directed her back to the original surgeon. Desperate, she finally agreed and retained the doctor's fee. She is now on strike about her new breasts. "They look totally natural—they don't look like cosmetics," she says. "I feel feminine and sexy—I can't explain it—it's amazing."

She was surprised at the difference in how male and female friends reacted to her new breasts. Most of the women were congratulatory, but some of the men have questioned why she did it. She says that attitude mystifies her, since most of the same men frequently point out—on sight—large-breasted women. Besides, there are other payoffs—liposuction customers have increased by about



15 per cent. "When I love at the end of the night, I come home with \$300 in my pocket because someone was looking at my breasts," she says. "It pays for school."

Above the neck, so-called fix lines are somewhat different. The urge is to make larger features as noticeable, such as protruding ears and, especially, noses. This kind of work, many surgeons say, is where the art comes in. Peter Adamson, president-elect of the American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, frequently cringes at the commonly used phrase, "nose job." "It's like being a doctor part and a sculptor. This being a 'nose job,'" he protests. Rhinoplasty, the correct term, is the procedure most commonly performed by head and neck surgeons, and it is one of the most difficult to get right. Problems can include removal of too much bone and cartilage, leaving a bridge or tip that is too narrow. But the risks may be worth it. According to Adamson, a good rhinoplasty can help

crumple stop obscuring about their faces or encourage shy adults to enter into relationships or pursue new jobs.

Then there is the in-between crowd. They have no major facial or body problems, are too young for a full face-lift, but not put the bloom of youth. Many are taking what surgeons call the a la carte approach: a small trade here, a slip with the laser there, and a 49-year-old can pass for 30. Later, when pretty real begins to take its toll, they can have more aggressive procedures without giving themselves away.

Lloyd Carlson, who operates the only cosmetic surgical hospital in North America—in Woodbridge, 40 km north of Toronto—as well as a popular clinic in the Cayman Islands, says that new techniques are particularly useful for those on the threshold of middle age. Endoscopy, for instance, uses slender probes fitted with tiny lenses, inserted through relatively small incisions. "A 30- or 35-year-old woman who has lost a sag in the mid-portion of the face, had her neck in line, and she just wants that sag brought up—she's a good candidate for an endoscopic face-lift," Carlson says. "But 35-year-old patients are

not, because they have skin that has to be removed."

Carlson, who opened his Woodbridge hospital in 1971 when cosmetic surgery was still a hush-hush topic, also says that reworking the top layer of skin—"take over" a person in his late 30s for six or seven years before a face-lift—dormexams and chemical peels—older techniques that use sand and acid, respectively, to smooth out fine lines by removing the top layer of skin—might also be appropriate, he says, depending on skin type. In addition, some wrinkles can be temporarily plumped up with collagen or lips made fabulously full with implants made from the high-tech fabric Gortex—the same stuff used to make waterproof, leak-proof clothing. Botox, a drug made from the highly toxic botulinum bacteria, can be injected into brow lines, temporarily smoothing out frown lines by paralyzing forehead muscles. That treatment, which was developed by Canadian doctors, lasts about six months.

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## GETTING A 'PUMP-UP'

It is made from cowhide and injected straight into human faces. People have their own supply of it, found in the body's supportive tissue and when nature runs low the body's own collagen can be used to provide a quick, relatively painless fix for facial lines. Suffering from sun damage? Severe nose scars? Just grin old again? Shots of collagen—a natural protein—can fill in all those lines between the eyes and around the smoker's lines around the lips, and the cream running from the nose to the corner of the mouth. They can even give women that pouty-lipped look popularized by actresses like Barbara Hershey, who had the injections. On the international marketing market, they are teamed with that last-in beauty book, says Elmer Olsen, a talent scout for Elite Model Management, in Toronto. "But it's quite new. Collagen is a popular way to get a little pump-up."

The process of injecting collagen is quick and simple with no downtime. A tiny needle, just goes through a needle directly into the area to be improved, the skin appears fuller and smoother. Redness and tenderness sometimes associated with the procedure fade within 24 hours. More than one treatment may be required. "I prefer to proceed conservatively," says Peter Jenkin, a dermatologist and associate clinical professor of medicine at McMaster University in Hamilton. "It's easier to add more a few weeks later than give too much and then wait months for the excess to subside."

There are no side effects, however, and the collagen does last anywhere from a few months to two years, the collagen is eventually broken down and absorbed into the body. Patients trying to maintain their new appearance must have more treatments—at \$300 to \$450 per shot. Increasingly, however, doctors are recommending other, more lasting techniques such as restructing tissue and dormexams. Lines around the mouth, for instance, often respond well to dormexams, which use sand and a rotating brush to remove the top layer of skin. Laser can also be used for removing fine lines around the mouth and cheeks. Many patients continue to opt for collagen, however, perhaps because laser technology is new and, for some, rather frightening. And for those intent on looking like the stars, collagen is still one of the best ways to pump up.



Hershey looking like her young self

But when the time comes to get the fix using structure and rebuild, there is no escaping major surgery. Carlson says that older complex fix to come in his Cayman Islands clinic suggest, turning their face-lifts into a Caribbean holiday. After paying out \$10,000, some wives traveling on their own also prefer the clinic's privacy—and distance from disapproving husbands. Others, like Del and C. R. Olson, wear their new faces like a badge. Del, an Edmonton fashion stylist, had her first face-lift and chemical peel in 1980, when she was 30. "I was at the moment of my life, when the pool fell off my upper lip and chin about a week after the operation," she recalls. "I knew I looked 10 to 15 years younger. I was proud to tell my age because I looked so good." She is equally thrilled with a second face-lift and tummy tuck she had last October, and she has no intention of ever accepting the ravages of time. "I'll live to be 100, I'll probably have two more face-lifts. If you are 300 and you look 70 or 75, isn't that hard?"

Her husband, who maintains rental properties, is no stranger to the look either. He underwent a nose job in 1966, a full face-lift 10 years ago, a chemical peel in 1994, a second face-lift last year. "C.R. is the best thing since sliced bread," C.R. says. "Anything you can do to make yourself feel better—do it. Never mind spending money on drinking and smoking—spend it on a face-lift."

It is hard to argue with satisfied customers. But there are those who warn that turning to cosmetic surgery in search of self-esteem is a dead end. "People end up not being in their lives, because they aren't living in their bodies," argues Trent University's Katz. "Wrinkles are a sign that you've lived, loved, had experiences. That's something to be proud of." Warren, the UBC doctor, acknowledges that cosmetic surgery may be the best way to deal with certain risks about appearance. "It's too bad we can't overcome it with our cerebrum, but it is just part of human nature," he says. Maybe—although some people ornately do overcome it, without benefit of a knife. Orlan, 40, has not even seen Rogers, who had a tummy tuck and liposuction—take a middle road. "I'm a bald-headed little man, but I would never do anything to make the natural aging of my face," Rodgers says. "I feel 38—I wouldn't be young again if I didn't look much. Many people lack self-knowledge and experience. When I look in the mirror, I like what I see." In the end, surgery or no surgery, who can argue with that?

With SARAH DOLY, DERMATOLOGIST and JOE CHAZLEY in Toronto

PATRICIA CRISWELL

# The joy of being fat free

Liposuction vacuums out bags and bulges 'from head to toe'

Yvette Oberg hated her "meatman" hips and the "lumpy fat" around her tummy. But no matter how much she squatted, stood and dieted, she could not shed the bulges. "I worked out for an hour and a half a day," recalls the 42-year-old Oberg, who owns a shoe store in Kelowna, B.C. "I could do sit-ups and the ones come back—but I could not get the fat off." Last October, a Vancouver plastic surgeon removed the excess weight from her stomach with liposuction—a procedure that vacuums fat cells out of the body. "I now have an incredibly flat stomach," says Oberg. "I was so thrilled that I went back and had my hips and my bum done last February." The surgeon removed more than three and a half liters of fat from Oberg's body in a few hours, she went from a size 32 to size 28 jeans. "When I go to the gym now, I wear these cute little outfits and I don't feel at all embarrassed working out with 30-year-olds," says Oberg. "I can get into a bikini—just that amazing!"

Pioneered in Europe in the 1960s, liposuction came to North America in 1980. At first, plastic surgeons used the procedure exclusively on thighs, buttocks and torso. Now, refined techniques allow for the removal of fat from the face, even in the face. "You can practically go from head to toe," says Dr. Gerald Rhoads of Montreal, who also specializes in eliminating small pads of fat from the chin and neck, reduce large "saddlebags" or trim a saddle liposuction is expensive—from \$10,000 to \$50,000, depending on the number of sites treated. Still, it has become North America's most popular cosmetic operation. In the United States, surgeons earned \$465 million in 1994 from liposuction. Rhoads notes that 90 per cent of his clients are women, many aged 30 to 50. "But there are some men too," he adds, "especially for the spine line."

One aspect of liposuction is that it not only eliminates fat—it appears to keep it off. "In liposuction, you remove the cells in which fat can be deposited," says Rhoads. It is possible to gain weight afterward, but doctors believe it does not accumulate in the treated area. Says Rhoads: "In general, fat removed in this fashion



Oberg after the operation and before (left). "I can get into a bikini—just that amazing!"

is removed permanently." The procedure, which usually lasts from one to two hours, is straightforward if crude. The surgeon makes a small incision in the skin, then inserts a fine bladed, tapered metal tube into the layers of fat. He moves the tube back and forth, loosening fat cells that are then sucked up through the tube into a container. "It requires a fair amount of strength," says Rhoads, as well as skill and good judgment. The surgeon must control the remaining fat, leaving enough to provide a smooth, even surface. Many doctors perform assisted lipoelastolysis, injecting fluid into the treated area—a less painful technique that decreases blood loss. Some are experimenting with ultrasound to break up the cells before they are sucked out. And a few surgeons use the fat and freeze it for use as a filler for wrinkles.

While liposuction may be a little to some, it cannot create obesity. "It is not a way of losing weight," says Rhoads, explaining that only small amounts of fat can safely be removed at one time. "Liposuction is useful for specific fat deposits in a patient with normal weight," he emphasizes. The procedure will also remove stretch marks or cellulite—includes temporary numbness of skin, excessive bleeding and infection. Skin tissue may be damaged, resulting in scarring or lumps. To date, there has been one death attributed to liposuction in Canada. In 1992, a 44-year-old Toronto real estate broker died after liposuction when a massive blood clot blocked an artery.

Gloria, a 32-year-old Edmonton property manager, underwent the risks when she underwent liposuction to remove "protruding saddlebags" a year ago. "It's not a science," says Gloria, who underwent a second operation to smooth out one thigh. "It's the doctor's ability—he uses his eye to judge the results." Her expectations—normal, considering the large area that was treated—were painful. "I had black bruising," says Gloria. "I sat on pillows for quite a few weeks." And, like many patients, she had to give a little to get a little. "I had to go to the gym for more than a month, to help my skin contract and to maximize swelling. I lost it," recalls Gloria. "It's extremely binding, but necessary if you want good results." Gloria did not achieve perfection. "I have very thin skin," she says. "And I don't get rid of cellulite." Still, she insists that "it was well worth it." The payoff, says Gloria, is her profoundly smooth silhouette.

SHARON DOYLE DREDDER



# Trent Frayne

## Four old quarterbacks and the CFL's future

Contemplating the beginning of another Canadian Football League season, a man's mind drifts back to Ralph Archer's account of the long-time opening of a home-office truckload of millions.

Toronto, Archer, who later became editor of *Maclean's*, had recently left the *Winnipeg Tribune* for *The Globe and Mail*, and Dufferin was a busy run-down track in the centre of town whose stables criss-crossed for years. On the eve of a new season, Archer wrote: "Everywhere is ready for the opening in Dufferin. They've sold the lawn."

In a sense, that's what's happened in football, especially in the East where four newly active quarterbacks are in place, all with household names (well, some household). There is Tracy Ham,

38, fresh from the Grey Cup champion Baltimore Stallions, who has moved north for the reconstruction of the Montreal Alouettes. There is David Archer, 34, whose son has been passing in the National Football League, however briefly, for Atlanta, Miami, Washington, San Diego and Philadelphia, and for the past three seasons in the CFL, first at Sacramento, then San Antonio before Archer arrived with the Ottawa Rough Riders this year.

There is Matt Dunigan, 33, who after Tracy Ham returns to a Canadian outfit, following a U.S. season, his Birmingham in the CFL's fabled three-year plunge into the wild south of here. That was Dunigan's 13th CFL season, and now comes his 14th, with the Tiger-Cats of Hamilton, a team that once ran raw and dispatched it Ottawa 25-23 in last week's season opener.

And there is Doug Platte, 33, the most published quarterback since Joe Theamanian did not Warren Moon is an ex of juries tall enough to run with as Platte is a man of five feet, 10 inches, with a passing arm to give the CFL's four seasons with the Calgary Stampeders and two in Vancouver, Platte has passed the Toronto Argonauts, reportedly for \$1 million for the season, and he showed vintage magic last week when the Argos opened their season with a 27-0 win over the Alouettes.

With these four, each a skilled and experienced player, the East is ready to provide the most vivid and entertaining aerial circus since the Ringling Brothers owned one. As every disgraced, unopinionated student of the game knows, the Canadian variety is far more spectacular than the plodding, predictable, freeze-dried game south of here.

But the problem is, are these four and their employers freely in place? The Rough Riders of Ottawa may have spent so much of their limited funds to sign the skilled Archer for a reported \$750,000 that they forgot, or didn't have the money for a support cast for the marquee star. In possession of halfback, the Rough Riders should 34-6 by the Argonauts and 34-7 by the Alouettes in games that the customers greeted, in the words of

Ottawa Star columnist Earl McLean, "with thunderous indifference." McLean added later by reporting that the first office visit was considering a \$400,000 offer for Archer's contract from the NFL's Oakland Raiders just to leave the CFL out of business. However, the recent financial involvement of multi-billionaire Fred Anderson, highland Ottawa's district, Anderson owned Archer's son while the CFL was including its American madmen.

Now, if the Rough Riders' offensive coordinator, former brilliant CFL quarterback, Doug Brock, can get on the same page in the playbook, football will be a wide open game in the East for a change. Tracy Ham proved the CFL's Grey Cup game, where he was voted most valuable player, that he has the quality and he has made it the dream of French-speaking Montrealers by underestimating

ing lessons in the language. The problem for him is his Georgia accent. Here, still columnist Marty York: "I'm coming along, but my French isn't southern drawl."

Matt Dunigan, who polished his Ohio accent in Alabama with the Birmingham Barons last fall, now is testing it in Hamilton's hoodies. Matt owns the league's (and likely the world's) record for single-game passing yards. Pitching for the Blue Bombers in a 1994 game, Dunigan threw for a dizzying 712 yards. For some had-dogged NFL quarterbacks, that's a crime.

In the early 1990s, Dunigan frequently faced Calgary's Doug Platte in dramatic pickfights. "After that game when Matt threw for 300 yards, we played from the next week on," Dunigan recalls. "One second following pickfights, I must say I was very motivated to play that game because, listen, Grey Cup, exhibition game or team strategy, I want to win." Platte chuckled: "We scored 50 points in the first half to bury them," he said.

But apparently he wasn't plotting, he quickly followed the tale by adding: "The Winnipeg defence, which was not very good that year." He then added: "After Matt threw the deep ball better than anybody in the league."

The Argos are playing Piffle 100 dollar party in the hope his name and his skill will bring fans back to the SkyDome. One fine in such thinking is that the bones of Toronto fans, especially the ones who call quarterback pickfights, are hardened by a world-class football. For them, football begins and ends with the NFL. For them, Platte finished a year with the Chicago Bears and two more with the New England Patriots. Accordingly, he's not world-class.

This notion involves Argonaut coach Don Matthews. "The NFL has a lot on its mind," says Matthews. "Knowledgeable CFL fans know Platte has transcended that other stuff. Doug's a competitor and he thinks like I do—win, win, win. It's playoffs or regular season or preseason, we win, right? And if it's a scrimmage, we damn well better win."

OK, they've fed the laws. But the question looms: Is the sixth enough?

Edited by  
JENNIFER WICKENS

## Heroes of an ancient sport

Dragon boat racing, which traces its roots in China back 2,400 years, may not be the best-known sport in Canada, but its pro-pot has a big boost last week with the return of two Canadian teams to major international championships. "There is a growing awareness about the benefits of dragon boat racing," says Anne Parry, a member of the Maritime Paddling Club Original Mile Dragon Boat Team, which was the Mixed Women's Club Crew Championship Cup in Vancouver. The team, which consists of 30 paddlers, a drummer and a coxswain, defeated 17 foreign teams, including one from the United States. Across the Pacific Ocean, on the same day, a team sponsored by the Toronto-Chinese Boat Race Association and Southbay, Inc. won the World Dragon Boat



*Can. J. Zool.* 70: 1095-1103, 1992.

Championship in Hong Kong. "There is the excitement of 20 paddles hitting the water at the same time," says Parry. "It is very colorful and loud and it has certainly started to attract some attention as a sport because of that." And winning can only help.

## Making 'scat-rap' music with words

**I**t is hard to put a label on David Dawson, who has been a painter, rodeo motorcycles and cars, was a high-flying stockbroker and dabbled in politics. These days, he is the lead singer for the Toronto-based band **The Word**, who play "scat rap"—Dawson's term for its dramatic mix of blues and jazz.

music with spoken lyrics. "I find that poetry can be intimidating to people," says Deacon, "but the music makes the poetry accessible to everyone." Having just released his second album, *The Iron Clock*, The Word is on a nationwide tour of major jazz festivals this summer. For Deacon, 46, lyrics are key. "I can write intensely because I've spent a lot of time living," muses Deacon, then, reflecting on his racing career, he adds, "and almost dying."

## Diet food for thought

**W**ith her new released book, *The 5 Day Miracle Diet*, already in its 12th printing (about 250,000 copies)—New York City author/nutritionist **Article Puh** is poised to become the latest in a long line of diet gurus. Focusing on controlling blood sugar levels, Puh's edicts demand to eat specific foods at specific times in order to eliminate diabetes. Puh, a former lady who at first lost, six inches and kept it off, has now gained 60 pounds in a comely gain that her book is selling. But she does have one edge that it is a sad commentary on North America society's obsession with thinness that weight-loss advocates like Robert Atkins, **Nathan Prilnicki** and **Dan Ornish**, who espouse widely different programs, become celebrities. "The message in Dan's speech could be repeated by Puh," she says. "He said he was obese and got himself back to normal." The solution, she insists, is to stay feeling better, and the rest will follow.

**Police:** 'People should stop beating themselves up'

## Books

## Criminals between covers

## Legal eagles, amateur sleuths, cops and killers heat up the bookshelves

**Murder seems no sin, but some** *merchants* *do* seem to produce an *inordinate* number of books devoted to cops and killers, crimes of the heart and heinous criminality. Perhaps publishers know that while a hot day at the beach makes for sluggish buyers, readers' minds are ripe for a jolt of malice and mayhem—siftily laced between book covers, of course. Blackman's writers can't rub too rotten a piece of rotisserie from the crime scene.

Rafael Benítez, the amazing  
ly prolific British crime  
writer, breaks up the sam-  
pling with two books,  
*Blindfold* (Hodder, £10.99)  
and *The Wincanton*  
(Viking Penguin, £28.95), the lat-  
ter written under her pen name,  
Barbara Vine. Readers unfamiliar  
with Benítez's work will be struck  
on the nose by *End Road*, his  
her sixth collection of stories, a  
captivating introduction, in the 12  
long and short pieces, murder is  
one of the most common of  
weapons—a fire log, a chilling  
scarf, poison mushrooms, even  
scalp patches. And some of the  
people are anonymous—an ex-  
ecutive, a doctor, for instance—  
and a man whose wife discovers that  
she's pregnant *The Times* commented puz-  
zled. But Benítez's bias may make the character  
and plot of the stories that give her power  
so much power.

the way in which the two Women's lives were linked in the past, is a marvel of storytelling. Once again, *Vince* offers a tale that is as psychologically penetrating as it is satisfyingly successful.

in *Hearted in Stone* (Doubleday, \$24.95), wherein author Eric Wright gives the leading role to Mel Pickett, a character he first introduced in *A Serenine Case* one of Jan 10 Charlie. Solter captures in this other Pickett novel, newly edited Toronto politician who has just built a career for himself in Ontario's cottage country. When a man's body is discovered in a rock crevice near his place, he gets drawn into the inquiry because of his friendship with the local police chief.



**Arrested psychologically penetrating  
and relatively successful**

Lyman Cason. Wright's sure touch in sketching his characters' foibles—especially Me's cautious approach to a new romance—and his wry descriptions of the social workings of Leech River, make for an entertaining backdrop to the plot. The premise, not overly complicated but clearly plausible, is well constructed.

As a nonstarbush setting—the Rocky Mountain foothills—grows appealing in Susanne North's second novel, *My Sister Sam* (Scribner, \$22.95). In December, 1991, and Stewart, \$25.95). Photo's solitary interests include making nature films in the beautiful environs, but her job as a TV camerawoman is a dead-end, and she has been languishing in the limbo of a date with a film: When she and her colleague Condi Sinclair, the show's host, are sent to cover a New Age festival in the foothills, the two women find out that the tale turns treacherous and social topicality.

New Age gurus and psychics, clearly, are uncool and uncool, and the novel is a satire of those who take their work to the hitherto best—no determined to take it as times it reads like a compilation of Minsky's best bits. The novel is a satire, but superficial characterizations and the often cliché prose make

It has a new thriller: *The Gold Digger* (Doubleday, \$29.95). British novelist Philip Kerr transports us to a popular peninsula of the late 20th century: computers are taking over, they are every bit as bad at running things as humans are. The title refers to the race for a state-of-the-art Los Angeles highway interchange in which the novel's author, traditionally speaking, is the builder's over-the-hill, over-the-hill security to self-indulgent to wilderness. When things suddenly go awry, the highway itself turns into a serial killer. Since heavy foreboding makes it clear early on why the people trapped inside are meeting such grim deaths. The funniest was the tension, depending on how seriously you read the book—lies in figuring out who the (sub)conspirators are: the computer, the highway, the people, the people, the people, the protagonists will make it out alive. Kerr's agreement with Prince Charles about the final state of modern architecture.

### Double exposure

**C**hill is an annual form of time-sharing. With her contract nearly up, journalist **Christine Arango**, CNN's Pan-Asian chief international correspondent, found herself in the enviable position of being wooed by four major U.S. television news services. Last week, Arango, 38, took a quiz on ABC and NBC, and signed on again with AT



Amateur, scored by four television news services.

where she has become the cable network's star performer with her coverage of the world's hot spots—from Afghanistan to Haiti to Rwanda.

At *Ammanet*, she was a news anchor in London and raised in Tehran, also has no agreement to contribute five reports a year to CNN's venerable 60 Minutes. TV analysts described her innovative two-network deal—worth more than \$4.4 million over three years—as a win-win situation since she will continue to generate national exposure while becoming more financially independent.

"I'm a very independent person," she says. "This lets me have my own life and my own voice."

abundance in *The Brontë House* Walling, the eighth Vine novel. Jenny, a naive working-class young woman employed in an upscale nursing home, befriends one of the elderly patients. She is dying of cancer, but unlike many of her co-patients, she maintains her faculties and her sense of dignity. Stella represents a kind of gentler wisdom for Jenny, who was raised in an unstable household and is now in the mode of a choralee: an emotional stillie who harbors a secret—a terrible 30-year-old one—and she has revealed it on a series of tape recordings that she intends to bequest to Jenny. The unraveling of the double narrative, and





## BOOKS

ture, it is not giving anything away to say that the Grid's neoconformist architect is not one of them.

Megaplexians also figures in *The Debt to Pleasure* (McClendell & Stewart, \$29.95), a defecatable treat, drenched with irony and black humor and liberally spiced with coarseness of Nabokov and Proust. The debut novel by Londoner John Lanchester, formerly the restaurant critic for *The Observer*, is a stew of gastronomy, travelogue,

And in an era of controversial U.S. jury verdicts, from Rodney King to O. J. Simpson, *The Runaway Jury* (Doubleday, \$22.95) is Grisham's most topical legal thriller yet. His seventh book is an inside view of jury manipulation in a wonderful death-by-bush-accident in Brent. Miss London Fifth holds Big Tobacco's multi-million-dollar slush fund, dedicated to preserving its perfect 16-0 legal record by whatever means necessary. The restlessness

arises at their verdict casts a magisterial pall right to the end.

It is a long way from Grisham's bloodless suspense to the world of Bill Rye (Penguin, \$29.99), the latest offering from Michael Slade, billed by his publisher as "Canada's Master of Horror." The tag is fully justified by Slade's sinister story detail. There is no shortage of passages where a reader can ponder the literal meaning of the word disembowelment, but an exact body count (which would probably exceed 100) is impossible to reckon.

That is because even Slade seems aware of the full damage caused by a vague bludgeon with a kilo of plastic explosive stuffed into an impolite office. The plot moves at lightning speed, uncovering ludicrous obfuscations and bizarre motives. Slade's Montreal heroes battle a capulating neo-Nazi skinhead, a vicious pair of African mercenaries, and anti-eating crocodiles just to get at their main adversary, who has killed a Mountie's mother and framed him for the crime. Slade is the pseudonym of two Vancouver criminal lawyers who profess deep admiration for the RCMP. Given the number of corpses wearing and tearing, there is a very special case of tough love.

There is far more real horror to be found in Christopher Hyde's *A Gathering of Sains* (Bantam, \$22), set during the London Blitz. Hyde's uncommonly detailed depiction of the effects of 20th-century diary bombs on human bodies makes the book's murders seem antisepic by comparison. Among the hundreds of corpses found after the Luftwaffe's first large-scale attack on Sept. 7, 1940, is one murder victim, dead before the bombs fell. As the body coalesces through the fall, more bodies are found, each killed at the site of a major German raid well before the planes arrive. Scotland Yard investigator Morris Black wins funds himself excavated in the Official Secrets Act, chasing a killer tangled up with British intelligence and a secret Nazi code. Hyde's byzantine plot, which has Martin encountering such real people as James Bond creator Ian Fleming and *Gunpowder* double agent Guy Burgess, is almost too dense to grasp. But the true nature of the atmosphere of the great city under siege, the swirl of terror and death, is brilliantly realized and compulsively readable. □



**A wave of new fiction delivers a jolt of malice and mayhem**

Fifth penny money into the defunct, both legitimate (including usually expensive jury consultants) and disreputable (bribe, blackmailing and threatening parties). But as the jury begins to defy the expert's predictions, it becomes apparent that there is an independent third party at work on the 12 men and women. Grisham clinches up his increasingly transparent plot with more medical details than readers, particularly smokers, will likely want, but his tension-filled account of how the

What Wambsguth is to the police station, John Grisham is to the courtroom.

# Simply Delicious...

For a light, fresh alternative that's easy to make, try our Summer Berry Shortcake.

Make a simple coulis by melting your favourite jam and pool in individual dishes, setting aside a small amount for garnish. Cut a frozen

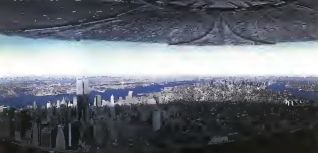
SARA LEE pound cake into wedges, stand each wedge in the sauce and drizzle with the remaining coulis. Surround with fresh berries. Mix 1 cup (250ml) of yogurt or sour cream with 1 teaspoon (15ml) of frozen concentrated orange juice and spoon over berries. Garnish with grated citrus rind (optional).

When your guests ask who made this delicious dessert, look them straight in the eye and say "Me!"





# Forces of good and evil



## Millennial dread invades the summer movies

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

Look up in the sky? It's a bird, it's a plane, no it's... Well, at the movies this summer, it could be any number of things: a tsunami with a mind of its own (*Titanic*), a flying lizard with napalm breath (*Independence Day*), a missile with a grumpy old person's face (*The Rock*), a conspiracy of imposters from outer space (*The Arrival*), a vast armada of alien invaders (*Independence Day*), or a mind-expanding bolt of extraterrestrial intelligence (*Phenomenon*). There is no need to wait for the turn of the century to experience millennial dread; it is already playing at a theater near you. In fact, by the time the year 2000 rolls around, the end of the world may be past. Better to enjoy it now on the big screen, before it goes to video.

The sky started falling with *Titanic*, the first blockbuster of the season. It is a three-part rail shot towards truckers who live around the countryside in 430s trying to second-guess the wrath of God. And now in *Independence Day*—the big daddy of the summer blockbusters—the sky darkens with an alien invasion on the scale of Armageddon. *Independence Day* is a *War of the Worlds* for the Nineties. But this work also makes the release of *Phenomenon*, a kinder, gentler tale of extraterrestrial intelligence starring John Travolta as a regular guy who receives a celestial blast of genius.

Incidentally, since all Hollywood's biggest blockbusters have contained a comic dimension—salutes of apocalypse, satellites and revelations that fill a human need to believe in something from beyond a higher power. The topgrossing movie of all time, after all, is *Star Wars*. *The Extra-Terrestrial* and *The New Revelation* approaches, the great breed is not over-expanding franchise. Witness the popularity of TV's *The X-Files*, a show about paranormal investigators with the motto "The truth is out there." Or observe the astonishing success cited by Toronto philosophy professor Mark Riegswell in his book, *Demons of Millenium*.

Scenes from *Titanic* and *Independence Day* (above) that end of the world on the big screen



Report from a Culture on the March: according to the U.S. Air Force, 37 million Americans (one in a hundred) claim to have been abducted by aliens. Together, *Independence Day* and *Phenomenon* represent the flip sides of Hollywood's fixation on close encounters with UFOs—the hostile and benign versions. What falls from the sky will either try to annihilate the world or, like E.T., teach it a universal lesson in peace, love and understanding.

*Independence Day* should be the biggest hit of a record-breaking summer at the box office. It is good news for those who do not mind their popcorn thrills spiked with a negative dose of war-savvy imagery. The movie serves up a gossamer buffet of action genres: a disaster epic, a war movie, a *Space Odyssey* spectacle, an alien flesh show and a *Top Gun* dog-fight derby. It adds up to lightbulb-filled patches with spectacular visuals.

Although it runs 180 minutes, *Independence Day* wastes no time cutting to the chase. The invasion begins at once, as giant saucer-like ships are called from a mother ship that weighs as much as the moon. The ships hover over major American cities, then destroy them. In the tradition of the D-Day invasion epic, *The Longest Day* (1962), the action sprawls over a panoramic range of characters. The leads include a seriously dazed Jeff Goldblum, who plays yet another quirky scientist (steamed from *The Fly* and *Jurassic Park*)—a witty computer genius who cracks the code of the alien "intelligence." Will Smith provides the testosterone as a fighter pilot, a swaggering cowboy dying to kick some alien butt. And Bill Pullman affects some unconvincing dignity as the U.S. president, a former Gulf War pilot who has to make some tough decisions to make or not to make and climbs into an F-14 to play a personal role in saving the world.

The filmmakers keep the pace effortlessly throughout, dosing comedy doses with comic relief at every implausible turn of the plot (the least of which is the alien mission). Sure, there are no

speed, the president even has the gall to suggest that Independence Day be turned into a worldwide holiday. "No country is free from war, from oppression, tyranny or persecution, but from annihilation," it makes one wonder if the real alien mission force casting a shadow over the globe is Hollywood itself.

*Phenomenon*, by contrast, involves no actual aliens, and no configurations. It is a whimsical, heartwarming tale about a test-tube auto mechanic named George (Travolta) who, after a stroke by a blinding white light from the night sky on his 37th birthday, Wand over his life. (It is never explained) George turns into a genius with an insatiable appetite for knowledge. He decodes several books a day, masters new languages and becomes adept at high-yield gardening. He also acquires paranormal powers that allow him to predict earthquakes and move pencils without touching them. The townfolk react to George's newfound wisdom first with awe, then with suspicion. And as his legend spreads, scientists want to examine him and the military wants to quarantine him. Meanwhile, George remains a nice guy, desperate to get a date with a wonderful item: his next door Lacey (Kirsty Wedgewood), the single mother of his dreams.

Director Jon Turteltaub shows *Phenomenon* with cottage beauty of schlock. Right from the opening frames—cutting from a blacked out to a house built on a basement level—he saturates the screen with images of a Norman Rockwell America, that buried beneath the banality of the filmmaking is a reflected movie with a smart script.

The cast is superb. Robert Downey Jr. in a dimmed bright performance as the stressed town doctor And Travolta is extraordinarily showing more range than ever in his role, he has been casted to grow roles, from the dazed prince of *Saturday Night Fever* to the stylish gaucherie of *Pulp Fiction* and *Get Shorty*. But in *Phenomenon*, despite the supernatural side of the story, he finally seems to be playing himself. And considering the actor's involvement with Scientology, a religion devoted to (a) thriving mind power, Travolta seems to have a spooky affinity for the role.

*Phenomenon* is a cross between E.T. and *Forrest Gump*. Like E.T., George turns into a Christ figure, a persecuted miracle worker who draws his power directly from the heavens. And like *Gump*, he is an exceptional Everyman, while George is a naive genius. Both develop startling talents, both become outsiders who expose the folly and intolerance around them.

Of course, Disney, the original wish-fulfillment mogul, has unleashed his own Gump-like alien in *The Rocketeer* of *Notre Dame*. The movie's entire composition is based on a heaven-earth perspective as the ancient Quasimodo camera snuffling down from God's bell tower. And, at the risk of putting too fine a point on this theme of celestial convergence, even the hyper-sensate *Matrix* *Impulse* novel on a score of Toni Cruise, depending on a heroism from a white-washed ceiling to descend computer secrets.

In the contemporary thriller, when the sky is falling, cyberspace is often the last resort. Those rears of scolding data that fill the screen constitute another kind of extraterrestrial intelligence, a digital Maelstrom of the spheres. In *Brave*, when the crash comes, Arnold Schwarzenegger has to relief his bugs and life. And in *Independence Day*, a laptop computer is all that stands between money and extinction. To save a world worth, you need last nodes.

And a good catch guy. The genius who helps reveal global destruction in *Independence Day* is a subtle TV technician. So is the Charlie Sheen character who ferrets out the aliens in *The Arrival*. Both movies, strangely enough, feature a congressional set of TV satellite dishes pointed at the sky. Perhaps Jim Carrey's *Cabin Boy*, the summer's most lighthearted movie, has in the ultimate alien sounds like another case for *The X-Files*. □



Travolta and Wedgewood in *Phenomenon* struck by a bolt from the blue



# Katherine Govier

## Experiencing eternity in Clayoquot Sound

I was happy to take a day off from the Canadian Bookellers' Association meetings in Vancouver last week to fly to Clayoquot Sound for a walk in old-growth rain forest, but I wasn't keen on chasing rapids to a logging track. I'm funny that way. Still, I joined a clank of writers, publishers and book-sellers rounded up by Tamara Stack of Greenpeace. She was feeling good, last week, MacMillan Bloedel loggers made a new incision into the 75 per cent of forest not yet clear-cut in the Clayoquot Sound area. After a Greenpeace blockade, the loggers went away. At least temporarily, logging a "juvenile valley" has been stopped. A juvenile valley has only two-per-cent incisions by man, for your information. And there aren't many left.

West Coast poet Susan McGeorge, Eden Robinson, a young Haida novelist from Kitimat, and Calgary bookseller Kerry Longpré donated yellow Greenpeace stickers. We all climbed into a 10-wheeler plane. We made a counter-sound group. Susan got sick. I got an earache. At Veluwe airport, we stood while Valerie Lussier, a friend of Clayoquot Sound, delivered a 20-minute lecture, kiosk shop not yet open. She was very intense. Susan noted the word situation was being thrown about a lot. Valerie vowed that when we looked at old-growth rain forest we would experience it many.

Gogi and Derby, tourists from San Francisco, had been threatened to drive us into Tofino; on route they complained that too many hatch were being built.

We met Mike Mullins, founding member of the group known affectionately in local parlance as "The Friends of Crapshot Sound," and stood some more. Lunch was becoming an issue. They wanted us to eat after the hike, we wanted to eat before. As we strolled into the oyster shell that would take us to Meares Island, there was near mutiny and everyone was throwing a device bus.

When loggers threatened Meares Island, the fight for Clayoquot Sound began. After a struggle, the island was declared a timber park, but that brought only a temporary reprieve. Now we were on Meares' rock shore and the photographer made us pose, crying, "Say trees!" Tamara let slip that Greenpeace was seeking old-growth sites being undisturbed for using American movie stars in its campaign. Feeling a little sad, we climbed a narrow boardwalk, hid over the forest floor amongst ferns, berry bushes and slushy moss. The air was cool and fragrant; the sun descending vertically amongst giant conifers into cupped glades. At the fork in the path was a helpful, hand-painted sign: "Big Trees" it said, pointing one way, "Mudflats" it said, pointing the other. We took the Trees.

Allen Fotheringham is on assignment. Katherine Govier's new novel, *Angel Walls*, will be published in August by ECW, Boston.

The white spruce lifted off in perfect perpendiculars, disappearing to spikes that splintered the blue sky. Holding hands, 10 of us couldn't encircle the base of a 1,200-year-old cedar. OK, I saw the point about trees: we've got 1,500 years of hemlock, cedar and spruce here on three feet and octantars more by volume, publishers are a book-sellers around and octantars for baby trees. The maturity in height allows light to penetrate and other species to flourish beneath the "canopy." Rejuvenation doesn't work, the new trees are all the same size and their canopy blocks out sun.

Valerie's schoolroom tone was not winning me over. I am eager to be being lectured. "Just because you're from the east," said Susan, "we shouldn't assume you don't know what a huckleberry is."

Valerie held up a shiny, wet, banana spotted slug; one of the denizens of old-growth forest. The slug is very important, we're told, it, too, will be a victim of clear-cutting. "This is how environmentalists get a bad name," mutters McGeorge, songstress of sea witches that she is. "Those slugs are the base of every garden in B.C. When people see them, they drop them in half with their scissors."

We reach the hanging garden tree. Over a thousand years old, this lebrum's base wouldn't fit in the average bedroom. There are waxes, velvet forests of ferns, moss, berry bushes and flowers sprouting from its bark way up around the third story.

Publisher Louise Denney wonders off the boardwalk and comes back to report on the phytoclasts of walking on bare forest floor. We all try it, salutes persuade them lectures may not.

Back in Tofino, Susan forages for empty beer cans. "The supplementing my poetry repairs," she says. At 13 cents a can, she already has \$1,000 in her daughter's university education fund.

Flying out, we get clear-cut areas and government-approved "Seismic Plant" cuts (so different except with a chop of trees in the middle). It's hideous. And it doesn't have to happen. There are alternatives: logging only second growth, sorting selectively, making paper from agricultural waste. I figure the only reason the lumber industry is getting away with it is that few people actually see what we're seeing.

Going home, we talk about how the book industry might ensure that no clear-cut or old-growth forest is sacrificed to make our paper. I find two beer cans for Susan's collection and ponder how Greenpeace, so dexterous at more dramatic stunts like dumping dead fish on the desks of CEOs, needs lessons in courting the media. But the fact remains: the environmentalists are right.

Three points. One: Nobody should lag those thousand-year-old forests. Two: Poets should get higher royalties. Three: Greenpeace should know that writers prefer to experience eternity on our own time. We're funny that way.

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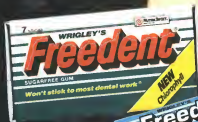
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